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LUNATIC ASYLUM, UTICA.

VOLUME III.

1846-47,

The care of the human mind is the most noble branch
of Medicine.—GROTIUS.

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ARTICLE I.

THOUGHTS ON THE RELATION OF PHYSIOLOGY TO PSYCHOLOGY.

By THOMAS HUN, M. D., *Prof. of the Institutes of Medicine in the Albany Medical College.*

I propose to show the connexion between the Physiology of the nervous system, and Psychology, and to establish the distinction between them. For want of attending to this connexion, Psychologists have lost sight of an interesting face of their science; for want of attending to this distinction, Physiologists have fallen into great confusion, and have been led into many absurdities and contradictions.

Physiology and Psychology embrace phenomena of different orders, and which are learned by different means. Hence they may be distinguished from each other. These two orders of phenomena are connected together, and to a certain extent are mutually dependent. Hence the two sciences have a point of contact, and it is important to examine this point, and see how they touch without becoming confounded.

By means of the five senses, we become acquainted with the external world. We find a substance having extension, figure, impenetrability, color, and exhibiting certain changes or movements, called phenomena. This substance which is external to us, which possesses these properties, and exhibits these phenomena, we call *matter*, and these properties and phenomena, we call *material*.

Our knowledge of the properties and phenomena of mat-

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Physiology and Psychology embrace phenomena of different orders, and which are learned by different means. Hence they may be distinguished from each other. These two orders of phenomena are connected together, and to a certain extent are mutually dependent. Hence the two sciences have a point of contact, and it is important to examine this point, and see how they touch without becoming confounded.

By means of the five senses, we become acquainted with the external world. We find a substance having extension, figure, impenetrability, color, and exhibiting certain changes or movements, called phenomena. This substance which is external to us, which possesses these properties, and exhibits these phenomena, we call *matter*, and these properties and phenomena, we call *material*.

Our knowledge of the properties and phenomena of mat-

ter, and of their relations, constitutes physical science, or rather the physical sciences, for there are several. The divisions of the physical sciences depend on the differences in the properties and phenomena of the objects of nature, and on the impossibility of reducing them to one general principle. Thus, we find in living beings, phenomena which are different from those of dead matter, and it is impossible to reduce the one into the other, by any means of analyzing these phenomena we at present possess; and hence we have a science of organized or living matter, and one of inorganized or dead matter. In like manner, secondary divisions are established.

But all these sciences agree in this, that the properties and phenomena they embrace, are learned by the five senses, that they belong to something external to us, and not to us, that this something has extension, figure, divisibility, exists in a certain place, moves, and is called *matter*. Hence, notwithstanding their differences, they are all connected together as physical sciences, or sciences of matter.

But physical science is not the whole of science. There are phenomena which do not fall within its domain. When I say, I think, I remember, I am angry, I am affirming the existence of phenomena which are real and certain; as much so as when I say that this candle burns, or this pen falls. These phenomena are indeed those of which we are the most sure, for I might listen with patience to one who should attempt to persuade me that I do not see an object which seems to be before me, because my senses have already deceived me, but if one should undertake to persuade me that I am not angry when I feel that I am so, or that I do not will, what I suppose I will, his attempt would appear to me supremely absurd.

These phenomena of thought, will, &c., are then real. Besides this, they do not seem to have any relation to extent, or space, or movement from place to place; they take place in *ourselves*, and not in that which is external to us. They are not learned by any of the five senses, for we do not see ourselves will, nor hear ourselves will; nor can we

touch or taste or smell volition; they are learned by consciousness, an internal sense, which informs us of ourselves, and what passes in us, but which gives no knowledge of what is external to us, just as the five senses inform us of the external world, and what passes in it, but give us no knowledge of ourselves.

There are then phenomena, of the reality of which, we cannot doubt, which occur within ourselves, and not in that which is external to us, which have no relation to figure, or space, or movement, which are not learned by the senses, but by consciousness; and just as we say that one class of phenomena belongs to the external world, to a substance called *matter*, so we say that these latter phenomena belong to the internal world, to a substance called *mind*.

It is true, that it is by consciousness that we are made acquainted with the impressions made on the five senses, so that ultimately, all our knowledge of the external world is a matter of consciousness. In this case, however, we are conscious of impressions made on us from without, and which are irresistibly referred to something external to us, and between which and us, the senses have served as a medium; while in the case of the phenomena of thought, will, &c., we are conscious of what takes place, directly in us, without any reference to the external world.

The man who should shut up his five senses, and endeavor to find the external world, *matter*, by his consciousness, would be guilty of an absurdity, for consciousness, does not reveal to him this external world, except through the medium of the senses. So the man who should neglect his consciousness, and endeavor to find the internal world, *mind*, by his five senses, would be guilty of a like absurdity. It is true, that by the senses he might find the external manifestations of mind, but of the phenomena themselves he could have no idea without consciousness. When I see a man gesticulating in a certain manner, I conclude he is angry, not because I see his anger, for I see only his gesticulations, but by my own consciousness I know

what anger is, and how it manifests itself externally in me. Had I never been angry myself, I might have known that a man in certain circumstances, would execute certain movements, but I never could have had an idea of anger.

Since then, the phenomena of thought, will, feeling, &c., occurring within ourselves, and learned by consciousness, are real, they may be studied, analyzed, and their relations may be discovered; that is, they may form the basis of a science, for to constitute a science, it is only necessary to have phenomena having fixed relations to each other. Psychology is the science which takes cognizance of mind, and its phenomena, as Physical science takes cognizance of matter and its phenomena.

To resume. There is then an external world of matter, the properties and phenomena of which are learned by the five senses, and the knowledge of this world constitutes physical science. * There is also an internal world of mind, which is revealed to us by consciousness, and the knowledge of this world constitutes Psychology. The domain of Physical science is, then, the *external world, matter*. The domain of Psychology is the *internal world, mind*.

Such is the distinction between Psychology and Physical science. To deny the propriety of this distinction, we must either deny the reality of the phenomena of consciousness, or we must show that these phenomena do not differ from those learned by the senses. That is, it must be shown that those phenomena which we refer to the simple, indivisible substance we call *I*, are of the same nature as those we refer to the extended, divisible substance we call *matter*.

Whether ultimately, matter and mind may be proved to be one thing under different faces, whether a unity or third term may be found which will unite these two terms, is a question of metaphysics, of which the solution is not necessary for my present purpose. The great point I wish now to establish, is, that mind as we know it, is different from matter as we know it. If in the progress of science, one of

the two substances is to disappear, I doubt not, it will be mind which will swallow up matter, and not the reverse.

I have now shown the distinction between Physical science and Psychology ; I proceed to show how they come in contact.

Physiology is a branch of physical science. It embraces the phenomena of organized matter, which are learned by means of the senses, and which even when studied in our own bodies are recognised as belonging to something external to us, and not as belonging to *us*. So far as these phenomena relate to nutrition and reproduction, there is no danger of any confusion, but when we come to the phenomena of animal life, or of the nervous system, then we must proceed with great caution, if we would avoid the errors into which physiologists have been, and still are, so commonly led.

The phenomena of consciousness, psychological phenomena are, in many cases, perhaps in all, accompanied by movements in the nervous system. These movements accompany, but do not constitute psychological acts. These acts take place, although we do not know there is a nervous system, and are always very different from anything we can conceive as occurring in this system. If anger, for example, is accompanied by some movement or change in a particular portion of the grey matter of the cerebral hemispheres, we can not conceive that this movement or change is anger. Take any conceivable change in this matter, any movement molecular or in mass, and it would appear most absurd, to call this movement anger. It would appear absurd because we cannot conceive of anger as a material movement which is cognizable by the senses ; it is a phenomenon of a different order, cognizable by consciousness. That it should be accompanied by a material movement as its cause or its effect, is a fact which we may attempt to prove, it bears no absurdity in its face ; but that it is this material movement, is an assertion so absurd that common sense at once rejects it.

We have now come to the point of contact between Psychology and the Physiology of the nervous system, to the confines of the material and spiritual world, and we must proceed in our investigation with caution.

Let us take the case of a sensation, analyze it into its elements, and see what belongs to matter, what to mind.

I lay my hand on the table, and feel it. This is a sensation. This sensation is a mental phenomenon; so little apparent connection has it with matter or a nervous system, that many persons experience such sensations all their lives, without knowing that there is a nerve, or what it is. But we can demonstrate that besides this sensation, this mental phenomenon, there are material movements without which it can not occur. Thus, if the nerve is divided, no sensation occurs when the impression is made on the hand, and by a series of investigations, we find that an impression has been made by the external object on the extremity of one or more nervous fibres, that this impression has traveled along these fibres to some point in the interior of the brain which can not be determined in the present state of the science, and when it has reached this point, the sensation is produced. Here are two things, a nervous transmission and a sensation. The first a material, the second a mental phenomenon. The nervous transmission causes the sensation, but is not the sensation; it is analogous to the transmission of electrical currents along wires. Suppose now that an electrical current, in its passage, finds a combustible matter, it will set it on fire. Here the current causes the combustion, but it is not itself combustion, so nervous transmission causes sensation, but is not sensation.

Suppose we could make the change which occurs in the nervous fibre, or in the grey matter into which it plunges, obvious to the senses, and then, that we lay bare the parts in a living animal and excite this movement, and say to a spectator, look at this movement, change, whatever it may be, *this is sensation you are seeing*: would it not appear absurd? Would not the man, thus addressed, say, it is impossible for

me or any other person to see or feel in any way the sensation of another animal; I see a nervous movement, and that may be the cause of the sensation; but the sensation itself can only be felt by the patient, it is a matter of consciousness, and I can not be conscious of what is going on in another, though I may see all the material movements or changes in his body.

One who had not read books of Physiology, who was ignorant of all the confusion which arises from not distinguishing between nervimotion, or whatever else we may call the material movements of the nervous system, and mental acts, would suppose I was wasting time on a point sufficiently clear. But those who read books of physiology, even the most modern, who find sensibility attributed to the nerves, and who have noticed all the floundering it causes among writers on the reflex action of the spinal chord, some of whom talk of sensations of which the individual is not conscious, will agree with me as to the necessity of reforming physiological language, and it may be, physiological science on this point.

If we take the case of a voluntary movement, we find the same elements entering into its production, but in an inverse order. We have the volition a mental phenomenon, acting upon nervous fibres in the brain at a point, which like that where sensation is produced, cannot be determined with certainty; the impression here made, is transmitted along the fibre to the muscle or muscles, and the voluntary movement succeeds. Here the mental phenomenon precedes the nervimotion, instead of following it, as in sensation.

Volition is so manifestly an act of the mind, and not a nervous action, that physiologists have avoided the error of considering volition as a property of the nerves, though there would be the same propriety in it, as there is in ascribing to them sensibility.

Not only is it true of sensation and volition, that they are connected with certain nervous movements, either as cause or effect, but the same thing appears to be true of all the

mental operations. Various facts which are sufficiently familiar to all physiologists, demonstrate that the mental operations are under the influence of the cerebral hemispheres, and are perverted or suspended when these nervous masses are diseased or destroyed. Still we must carefully bear in mind the distinction between the nervous movements and the mental operations, at the same time that we admit their connexion.

As to the mode of the connexion between the mind and the body, and how the one acts upon the other, it would be unprofitable here to speculate. Descartes, who was one of the first who clearly established the distinction between the substance which thinks, *mind*, and the substance which is extended, *matter*, found it impossible to frame even an hypothesis of their mode of union, and in a kind of philosophical despair, resolved it all into a miraculous effort of God, a *divine assistance*. Leibnitz invented his hypothesis of the *preestablished harmony*, according to which the nervous movements and the mental operations correspond, but without any relation of cause and effect. Imagine two parallel movements, one occurring in the nervous system, and the other in the mind, and so arranged that they shall always correspond in time, and you have the view of Leibnitz of the mode of union of the soul and body. Hence, when I execute a voluntary movement, it is not the volition which causes the movement in the nervous fibre, but this movement occurs at the same time with the volition; and so sensation occurs in the mind at the same moment that the impression is made on the nervous fibre.

Others again, seeing that so long as this duality was admitted, no explanation of the reactions of mind and matter could be possible, have endeavored to get rid of it. Some have denied the existence of mind, and have made thought an attribute of the substance matter. These are the materialists. Others have made matter only a mode of manifestation of mind. These are the spiritualists. While a third class have endeavored to find a third term which should include

both matter and mind. Such for example is the system of Spinoza.

It is not necessary for Physiologists, nor even for Psychologists, to attempt the solution of these problems of transcendental metaphysics, problems which are so vast, so difficult of solution, that no one metaphysician has as yet been able to seize more than one of their faces. For practical purposes, we have a task more humble, but more easy. We have to study, not the nature of the two substances nor the nature of their relation, but this relation itself as it manifests itself to the senses and to consciousness. The great questions for us to answer are these: what nervous movements correspond to given mental acts? what is the mechanism of these movements? and how are the mental acts affected by changes in the nervous system or in the rest of the body? Without undertaking to explain how an impression transmitted along a nervous fibre gives rise to a sensation or is accompanied by a sensation, we study the different elements necessary for the production of sensations, and the modifications of sensation produced by changes in the nervous fibre. So of the other mental operations. We can not explain how it is that the instincts or the intellectual acts should be connected with nervous movements in the grey matter of the hemispheres, but we may study the conditions of this grey matter necessary for the healthy manifestation of these acts.

Cabanis appears to have been the first who conceived the idea of studying the connexion between the moral and physical nature of man, not as a question of abstract metaphysics but as a matter of fact to be settled by observation and experiment. His work on the *Rapports du moral et du physique*, does indeed attempt a sort of solution of the metaphysical question by denying the existence of mind, and this is the portion of it which is the weakest and most amenable to criticism, but to him at least belongs the glory of having conceived thus clearly the problem of their relations as matters of fact.

To resume. The Physiology of the nervous system embraces all the facts in relation to the movements, or changes, which occur in the nervous matter. It is a science of facts, cognizable to the five senses, and uses the same modes of investigation as the other physical sciences.

Psychology is the science of mind. It is founded on facts of consciousness which are not cognizable to the senses. It embraces all the mental operations, which are very different from changes in nervous matter, and hence Psychology is not merely a chapter of physiology, but a separate and independent science.

But there is a connexion between nervous movements and mental acts, the nature and mode of which is unknown. The study of the facts relating to this connexion between man's physical and spiritual nature, constitutes a middle ground on which the Physiologist and Psychologist meet. The Psychologist must come from the exclusive study of facts of consciousness, in order to understand many of the influences to which they are subjected, and the Physiologist in tracing nervous movements, comes at last to facts of consciousness, for the comprehension of which he must look to Psychology.

ARTICLE II.

ON IMPULSIVE INSANITY.

BY EDWARD DANIELL, ESQ., NEWPORT PAGNELL, ENG.

Communicated to the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, at the Anniversary Meeting, held at Sheffield, July 30th and 31st, 1845.

The functions of the brain and nervous system in health, and under disease, confessedly constitute an abstruse and

difficult subject, the investigation of which involves the highest measure of professional attainment.

On public grounds, a correct knowledge of its physiological and pathological phenomena, constitutes a most essential qualification in practitioners of every grade. On the true testimony of medical witnesses depends the public safety, as well as the proper protection of individuals who may be presumed to be labouring under insane manifestation. For my own part, I should not have presumed to write a paper upon such a subject, nor have had the temerity to deliver it before this enlightened meeting, were it not that in the course of practice some curious and interesting cases have fallen under my observation, which I thought not altogether unworthy of detail; and, moreover, that by the little I have to say, I might stimulate others to think and to say more.

The multiplication of facts furnishes the best data for practical inference, and the true knowledge of function is often better understood while the organ is under pathological disturbances, than when its condition is perfectly normal. When structures become radically changed by diseased action, we are sensible that their functions must be impaired. The knife of the anatomist can display these ravages; and he having correct views of the physiology of function, knows when these morbid exhibitions present themselves, what must have been the symptoms and character of the disease during life. If the liver, the lungs, the heart, the stomach, or the intestines, have been thus victimized by structural derangement, his judgment will not err; but the brain is *sui generis* in this particular, as insane manifestation does occur without detectable organic lesion; not but under certain phases of common disorder, the former organs exhibit disturbed action, without involving their structure; but death rarely occurs from such a condition, nor does the impaired action last very long, but the mind will sometimes be irregular for years, and yet the brain preserve its integrity.

There can be no doubt but the brains of permanent maniacs undergo extensive structural changes. By the investigations of Pinel, Esquirol, and others, positive organic changes have been shown, such as opacity in the delicate arachnoid, tubercular deposits, ossifications, congestion in the vessels of the pia mater, and other abnormal appearances; and, for my own part, I cannot see why the brain should form an exception in these particulars to other parts of the animal machine. But the object of my inquiry is not what occurs in appreciable insanity, but rather in that peculiar condition of disorder where insane manifestation is temporary. It has been admitted by continental inquirers that the substance which covers the convolutions, the cortical or grey substance, is always found in maniacs to be injected, and changed in colour, and even in sudden and suicidal fits of insanity it is rarely found otherwise than congested. I think this an important point to be kept in view, for if it be true that our intellectual powers are manifested through this substance, even a slight abnormal state of it may account for the irregularity in our thoughts, and consequently in our actions.

Insanity in its more regular and fixed character very rarely occupies, for any length of time, the attention of the general practitioner; patients are speedily removed to proper asylums, and placed under such restraint and management, as would be incompatible with the convenience of private practice. But the insanity to which I have alluded,—that which is “impulsive” and temporary, and which, in its effects both to the individual and to society, is frequently frightful, not only comes under our observation, but often involves us in a painful judicial inquiry. A true knowledge of this kind of alienation is most essential to the general practitioner. He should make it his particular business to investigate its characters with untiring assiduity, because there are questions between the legal and pathological definition of such derangement which will often place him in a position of difficulty. The law being ignorant of the nicer

points concerning insane manifestation, might not be willing to admit opinions contrary to its own interpretation of responsibility, or at any rate it would require, and it ought to do so, incontrovertible evidence that those opinions were founded in truth. Let the following case be taken as an example:—

Mr. H—, a farmer became a patient of mine in 1822. He was an atrabilious subject, of irritable temperament, subject to frequent functional disturbance of the liver, of sallow and muddy complexion, accustomed to free living, and at one period of his life given to intemperance. He had been raised by marriage from a state of laborious indigence, to comparative wealth, grew indolent under his change of fortune, and addicted to low indulgence. It will be scarcely necessary to detail my views of his disorder; clearly its seat was in the organs which subserve the office of digestion. The liver was torpid, its edges tender, and slightly indurated. While under treatment he manifested great irritability, his temper was soured by the most trifling circumstances, and his mind disturbed by gloomy and despairing views of every event. Still he could converse, and even be pleasant amongst friends and neighbors; he gave no token whatever of wildness or incoherency; his answers to questions were always natural, and no man could gather from his general demeanour that the slightest irregularity existed in his mind.

One day I called upon him and found him in a state of great agitation,—countenance flushed, eyes unusually bright and shining, pulse rapid, breathing hurried and disturbed, as though he was just recovering from some violent mental commotion. I thought some trifling domestic occurrence had excited a paroxysm of anger, and that the wild eddies of ungovernable rage were just subsiding as I entered,—indeed I took it for granted that such was the case, and began to point out to him the dangerous tendency of such paroxysms, but he assured me I was mistaken, for nothing had occurred to disturb his equanimity, at least as far as his family or business was concerned; “for all that,” said he, “I have under-

gone a great trial, a trial which fills me with horror when I reflect upon it." The following is his own account:—"I was lying on the sofa, and my wife and children were sitting by the fire; I had been talking to them very comfortably, when suddenly my eye caught the poker,—a desire came upon me which I could not control; it was a desire to shed blood. I combatted with it as long as I could; I shut my eyes, and tried to think of something else, but it was of no use; the more I tried the worse I became, until at last I could bear it no longer, and with a voice of thunder I ordered them all out of the room. Oh! had they resisted—had they opposed me, I should have murdered them every one,—I must have done it; no tongue can tell how I thirsted to do it; Heaven bless them, and for what reason? Great God! how grateful I feel that I am free from that crime."

On another occasion he met his youngest child, a sweet girl about six years of age, on the landing of the stair-case, where was a sash window, looking into the yard, being at an altitude of fifteen or sixteen feet from the ground. An impulse came upon him at this moment; he actually seized the child by the arm, and had his hand upon the frame of the window, when his better feelings mastered the desire he rushed into his bed-room, and lay all day in a state of horror and distraction. I must premise here, that although he was a surly ill-tempered man, he was doatingly fond of his children.

I deemed it necessary under these circumstances, to guard the family against these fearful attacks; he was wise, enough to see the necessity of certain wholesome restraint, which, however, was employed without hurting his feelings by a too painful display of it. As the disordered condition of his digestive apparatus recovered their wonted healthy tone, I heard no more of this destructive impulse.

Now, what was the pathological condition of this man's brain? Was it primarily or sympathetically disturbed? Was it generally or partially irritated? Did the whole men-

tal organ participate in the derangement ; or was it excited over any particular locality having functions peculiar to itself? I advocate no particular doctrines, but I believe the brain to be the organ through which mind is manifested ; facts bear me out too in the belief that this organ is not single—that it is a compound, and that given portions have given functions. My idea of this case is, that the peripheral extremity of the grey substance covering certain convolutions, was in a state of *occasional* symptomatic irritation, analogous in character perhaps to the temporary flush which pervaded the countenance and lighted the eye, that the *aptitude* of its natural manifestation was increased in proportion to the excitement, and that the impulse thus created subdued for a moment the higher range of faculties, and that murder would have been committed, but for the return of their controlling energies. Bear in mind, this was a man of very limited education,—he had no artificial refinement, his pleasures were purely animal, and his passions uncontrolled, either by the exercise of religion, or by the restraint of moral obligation. If there be parts of the brain peculiarly designed for exalted sentiments, with him they were uncultivated ; the merely brutal propensities had through life been energetically excited.

In a medico-legal point of view this case is highly interesting. Had the threatened catastrophe occurred ; suppose under this maniacal excitement he had murdered his wife and children, what measure of responsibility would have been attached to the act? He was suffering from causes known to induce hypochondriasis, proved in many instances to forerun suicidal propensities, and which indeed have been considered in a coroner's court sufficient to justify a verdict of "Temporary Insanity." Would such a plea be admitted in a court of law, where other testimony would tend to neutralize its validity? Apart from medical evidence, what would be said by neighbors and friends, but that the man had at all times in their presence indicated perfect sanity.

The madness was impulsive and momentary: in a very

short time the character of his mind was changed, and remorse at the bare conception of the deed took possession of his feelings. How necessary that these delicate points of discrimination should be well understood, and how culpable is that practitioner who neglects the study of a subject, which involves so many interests. In the criminal annals of this, and other countries, may be found innumerable examples of great crimes committed under circumstances which may well raise a question as to the sanity of the perpetrators.

The case of Martha Brixey, who was tried at the Old Bailey on the 16th of May last, is a striking example of "impulsive insanity." Impelled by feelings analogous to those detailed in the case of Mr. H., she really committed the deed; he, by the intervention of better feeling, resisted. But in her, remorse and a better spirit followed the commission; unhappily it was dormant when its interposition would have been of value. The brain in this case, I apprehend, was only symptomatically disturbed; some abnormal condition of a remote organ may have been the inducing cause—say the uterus, the brain becoming the subject of irritation through sympathy with its disordered function.

We all know in practice the protean character of hysteria when mental manifestations are implicated in its effects. I have a patient at this moment who detained me two hours, and sent, moreover, for the clergyman of the parish, to witness her dying moments, although she was walking about the room, and talking incessantly all the time. It was in vain to reason with her; she was dying, and the cause of her anticipated death was from lifting a wine-bottle off the table, and rupturing thereby the gall-bladder: she very knowingly placing her hand between her shoulders, as her anatomical view of its proper locality.

It would be both awkward and invidious to call your attention to facts in the annals of our criminal judicature, or I could adduce many instances where the lives of criminals have been forfeited, sacrificed I had almost said, to the of-

fended laws, when judging from the evidence, the very deeds for which they have suffered were committed perhaps under the influence of "impulsive insanity." The absence of all motive for crime; the utter helplessness, if not innocence, of the victims who have been destroyed under this awful thirsting for blood; and, finally, the criminal's own statement not only of love and affection for the objects they had cruelly mutilated, but detailing, as they have done, the irresistible character of their impulsive feelings, so like in description to the case I have quoted.

Under the influence of intoxicating liquor, men exhibit strange actions, altogether different in character from the ordinary and common course of their proceedings—cowards grow pot-valiant; wise men become fools and idiots; morose men witty; and witty men morose. The following is a curious case of spectral illusion produced by hard drinking:—

A farmer was returning home from a party, where he had been drinking freely the greater part of the day. The night was dark, and the road to his own house very lonely, so that the probability of a companion at that late hour was very problematical; still he found he was not alone, for a grotesque figure was marching by his side, at times running before him, and exhibiting remarkable eccentric evolutions. He spoke to it, but of course it returned him no answer. He stood still and rubbed his eyes, the figure was there; he attempted to run after it, but I need not say it eluded him. He was not so far gone in liquor as to be incapable of reasoning; he argued, and argued properly, it was the mere phantom of a heated and intoxicated brain. Such a phantom exhibited before a weak and superstitious mind, would have formed the nucleus of a regular ghost story, and have gained for the locality of its appearance, the appellation of the haunted glen!

The following case of hallucination is one where the brain, injured by repeated intemperance, became symptomatically disturbed during active derangement of the liver

accompanied with its ordinary concomitant characteristics of general fever and depression of spirits:—

W. C., an innkeeper, a man of intemperate habits and idle from the very nature of his calling, had suffered for years with what we called a "liver complaint;" he had been jaundiced repeatedly; his tongue was always foul, and his complexion of a dirty brown. He was not generally a patient of mine, but I was called to him hastily under a seizure of "impulsive insanity." The effect in this instance was widely different from the case of Mr. H. He had lost all control over his perceptions; present objects were presented to his mind distorted, and his vision was crowded with unreal images. I found him capering about the room, hopping upon chairs and tables, and vociferating loudly at every movement; the perspiration streamed down his cheeks by the violence of his exertions, and his countenance exhibited the most marked characters of fear, horror, and dismay. He had a notion he was in hell; that legions of devils were pursuing him in every direction, imps of every form hissing and whizzing about his head, his hands and arms being perpetually in action to shield him from their attacks, occasionally seizing and grasping them, dashing them on the ground, and stamping upon them; snakes entwined themselves round his legs, and fire was scorching him. To reason with him was useless; nothing in nature could equal his intense agony, and no effort of mine could dispel the illusion. At length I hit upon an expedient of humouring the false impression; I sprinkled the room with chloride of lime, created a smoke, and pretended to charm away the intruders. It had its effects; he became quiet, and was then prevailed upon to take fifteen grains of calomel and a black draught, which, as far as his insanity was concerned, entirely cured him.

The habitual use of opium will induce analogous hallucination. A friend of mine, a divinity student, became the victim of this nefarious habit, and the account he gave me of nocturnal visitors, induced me, some years ago, to pub-

lish an account of his wild phantasies. They would exceed belief if I did not know them to be facts; he, however, was sensible that the objects which flitted before him were unreal, but their approximation to living bodies was so close, that it required a strong effort of mind to resist the belief in their verity, and of courage to prevent him calling for help. On one occasion he actually did fire off his pistol at what he thought was a ruffian in his room. The sense of hearing in this case was so acute, and ordinary sounds became so loud and terrific, that the rustle of his bed clothes, or the scratching of a mouse, were painfully distressing.

The functions of the brain are rendered irregular by excitement and irritation, let the cause of that excitement be what it may, and the duration of the insane fit depends, as in other cases of organic disturbance, upon the length of time the irritating cause remains. That repeated and repeated excitement will ultimately change the structural character of the brain and pave the way for permanent disorganization, with its natural result, insane manifestation, is clear, because such effects are proved pathologically to occur in every organ of the human body; the liver, for instance, excited by ardent spirits will in time run on to disease, and the delicate lungs irritated by spicula, will pass on from stage to stage, until their structure is destroyed.

The moral faculties of the mind, through the brain as their instrument, become impaired by violent and uncontrollable emotions, and the incubation of permanent insanity is often found resulting from some domestic calamity—the loss of property or friends. The following is a curious case of this character:—

Mary Swinestead was admitted into the Union Workhouse at Newport Pagnell, eight years ago, as a harmless lunatic, whose case did not require the more stringent management of an asylum. She labors under a singular hallucination; she is pale and thin, remarkably good natured, having an agreeable smile perpetually on her countenance. The immediate cause of her insanity is said to be the

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death of her mother. Soon after this event she gave tokens of a disturbed mind, which was still increased by an idea which had taken full possession of her, that her mother's body had been removed for dissection. Whether such was the case or not I cannot tell, but the certainty of it was so fixed in her mind, that it was impossible to remove the impression. She dwelt so long upon this idea, that what at first perhaps was a mere supposition, at length to her mind became a reality, until the supposed transaction, became embodied in image, and she now says, that the body not only was removed, but names the persons who did remove it. She is a very active little woman, between 50 and 60 years of age; she continually busies herself with sweeping and cleaning rooms, but talks incessantly the while. She creates a world of her own and peoples it with imaginary beings, addresses them by name, and grows angry with them when they annoy her. The persons she names are individuals who reside in the village from whence she came and are the parties from whose hands she has received her imaginary injuries. They walk about her room, hide themselves in corners, get under her bed, and even under the floor. Nothing could induce her to sleep in a boarded room; the one she chooses is paved with bricks, for these troublesome people make fires under her, and she is certain if she were to sleep on a boarded floor, she should be burnt in bed. They give her severe blows, and she often shows me her arms as evidencing the injuries she has received. She endows inanimate things with the power of speech and reason; her stick talks to her, and she addresses it again most affectionately; even her chamber door becomes her companion, and I am often amused with long stories of what her stick and door had been talking about.

The system of Gall and Spurzheim has its advocates and opponents; like every other system of philosophy it will meet with its measure of opposition, so long as it is at variance with preconceived opinions; but nevertheless it is a system more calculated to simplify the singular and

erratic manifestations of the brain, both in health and disease, than any other with which I am acquainted. I confess myself tardy in admitting all its details, and I abominate the fulsome quackery the system has introduced; but of its grand principles, that the brain is not an unit, but a compound,—that certain portions of the organ have peculiar and settled functions,—and that their activity and strength depend upon the freedom of their development, are facts seemingly borne out to me both by ordinary mental operations, as well as by the manifestations exhibited under the influence of brain diseases. But while I admit this as a general principle, I feel bound to attach very high importance to quality, consistence, and idiopathic peculiarity. Brains, like other parts of the animal body, may differ, not only in development, but in texture and delicacy; they may be too soft or too hard, and even the quality of their component parts may vary, being in some persons more fibrous or more vascular, all which circumstances may influence manifestation. This state of the brain is borne out by analogy, for do not the powers of digestion differ, the strength of the lungs, the energy of the heart, the action of the liver, and the activity and power of the muscles,—their dissimilarity in different individuals depending on formation, texture, and organization.

If we regard the intellectual powers and moral sentiments, how differently are they manifested by different individuals. The beauties of nature create in some men high and exalted sentiments, which by the great majority of mankind are regarded only as matters of course, or valued in proportion to the riches they produce; hence it is that a poetic mind will find food for enjoyment in the ripple of a stream, while the farmer will only regard its waters as a convenient beverage for his cattle. The stately oak of the forest is estimated by the timber-merchant, according to the number of planks it will produce, while the moralizer will trace its progressive development from the period when

“A fly setting on its leaf could shake it to the root,”

and talk of the revolutions of kingdoms, and empires, the rise and fall of nations, the changes of men and manners, during its progressive growth of a thousand years.

What is the cause of this essential difference in the views and feelings of individuals? Education, it is true, may have fitted the one for the exercise of such sentiments, while the want of it in the other, may render him dead to such impressions; but education alone, without native powers, is incapable of such results. Education is but the means of developing faculties and training energies, which, according to my humble judgment, had their rudimentary existence in the brain itself, coeval with the birth of the individual. How often in the history of genius and enterprise have the native powers burst forth, dispersing the mists which untoward circumstances had created. What did the great Hunter owe to education; or Ferguson, or Franklin, or a hundred others? Peasants subjected from infancy to toil and poverty, have, by a powerful impulse, suddenly emerged from the darkness which had covered them, and startled the world by the splendor of their powers. They have taken Nature for their teacher, pondered over her book of beauty, and gathered lessons of practical wisdom amidst the silence and solitude of brake and dingle. They have arrived at truths which more cultivated understandings had overlooked, and portrayed charms which only the eye of genius could detect. If Nature in these cases was their guide, her lessons were directed to natural and not artificial powers.

In our times Clare, the Helpstone peasant poet, is an example of high poetic powers, reared in poverty, and unfettered by the trammels of scholastic erudition. And yet what can speak more truly to the heart of man than his simple but often sublime images. If "chill penury repressed his noble rage," it could not "freeze the genial current of his soul;" he burst through every impediment, and for awhile poured upon us the streams of his genius, but like the sun, as he descends into the west, shorn of his fire, and

almost lustreless, this unhappy man is now a sad and melancholy wreck. Still chaste and beautiful images flit over his demented faculties, and by the promise of a pipe of tobacco, he will occasionally pen some beautiful lines. I was favored by a friend with a poem of his, on "The Swallow," written on the counter of a bookseller's shop, and which was elicited from him by such a bribe. I quote a passage to show how in the insane manifestation of other organs, this poetic faculty preserves its integrity :—

" Bird of the season, bird of spring ;
Bird of meadow, lake, and river ;
In every happy place they wing
Is sailing on as if for ever."

There is, however, in this poem an erratic wildness, which indicates a mind deficient of consecutive order ; there are faults in the construction of the verses, and in their syllabic arrangement ; but for all this there are passages having the touch of Clare in his best state.

It has been said that genius and insanity are nearly connected :—

" Great wits to madness closely are allied,
And thin partitions do their realms divide."—*Dryden*.

There can be no doubt that impulsive derangement acting on a different order of faculties does induce a condition of brain very analogous to the inspirations of genius. Blood in each case is forced with impetus to the exciteable organ ; but there is this difference in their action, one stimulates a disordered, the other a healthy faculty. Genius is not at all times able to command its own powers ; it requires certain causes to operate before its energies can be excited ; if there be not on the part of the brain a measure of fitness, the effort to spur it to activity is useless. We may reason metaphysically on this matter, and be as abstract in our doctrines as we please ; but if we come to close investigation, we shall find the cause of this condition more in physical

than mental disability; we shall find the nervous energies at fault; and, perhaps, if a powerful stimulant were taken, the impediment would be removed. It is said that Byron could never write well until excited by draughts of gin and water,—a vulgar beverage for so great a man, but perhaps competent to induce the condition he required.

The history of poets and orators show how an overwrought brain leads to insanity. Innumerable instances might be quoted of madness amongst this class of individuals, nor are they at intervals without a presentiment of their condition.

There is a curious case recorded of an American girl, Lucretia Maria Davidson,—an instance of precocious talent very rarely paralleled. She died at the age of 17 years, after having written a vast number of exquisitely beautiful poems. Her perception of all that was beautiful can not be separated from a morbid condition. Under the influence of soft and gentle music, a spirit of inspiration would steal over her, her thoughts would flow rapidly, and she would write them with incredible celerity. Her language and her thoughts were alike brilliant. Moore was her favorite poet, and one song of his, called "The farewell to his harp," had such an effect upon her as to make her faint; but for all this she had such a love for the sensations it induced, that she was never happy only when it was sung to her. There is a poem addressed to her sister, entreating her to sing this song,—a poem full of tender pathos, but the ideas seem to belong rather to an ethereal than an earthly being. I quote the very last fragment she ever wrote merely to illustrate my position,—that a presentiment of insanity frequently pervades genius.

"There is something which I dread,
It is a dark and fearful thing;
It steals along with withering tread,
And sweeps on wild destruction's wing.

That thought comes o'er me in the hour
Of grief, of sickness, or of sadness;
'Tis not the dread of death,—'tis more—
It is the dread of madness.

Oh ! may these throbbing pulses pause,
Forgetful of their feverish course ;
May this hot brain, which burning glows,
With all a fiery whirlpool's force,

Be cold, and motionless, and still,
A tenant of its lonely bed ;
But let not dark delirium steal,

* * * * *

Here the poem breaks abruptly, but how characteristic of the impulsive workings of what she describes—a hot and fiery brain. This poor girl died of consumption.

In the literary world there are innumerable examples of a similar kind, delicate, excitable, and fine wrought nervous systems, combined with a strumous habit. Kirk White, Knowles, Pollok, and Tyson, were beings of this order; precocious, not simply from capacious cerebral developments, but from the fineness and delicacy of their organization, in which the brain partook in common with the rest of the animal economy. Like hothouse plants, they were not designed but for an atmosphere of their own, and their impulsive energies were likely to wear them out.

Precocious children die early from meningitis or hydrocephalus; the animal seems to succumb to the intellectual; the order of nature is reversed, and disease in its protean forms results from such a perversion.

Eccentricity, although whimsical in character, and exhibiting manners and actions opposed to the usages of society, cannot well come under our definition of insanity, although the singularity is often impulsive. I knew a gentleman who would laugh loudly at church, when the pathetic energy of the preacher had affected the congregation to tears. It was his absurd mode of testifying pleasure. A German musician yawned audibly when Garrick was performing one of his best characters; the audience were profoundly still, enraptured with the exhibition, when they were startled from their propriety by this extraordinary note. When David severely reprimanded the delinquent

for exhibiting such a token of weariness, his reply was,—
“I alway do so, ven I be ver mush pleased.” In the strong mind of Johnson, impressed with the truths of religion and the prospects of a better world, what was the cause of his morbid apprehension of death? And can Cowper’s habitual melancholy, and rooted belief in his own exemption from the happiness of heaven, be accounted for, on any other principle, than disordered functions?

According to the investigations of the continental pathologists, the children of eccentrics have been frequently insane; and in my own practice I have found both the children and grandchildren of such persons very prone to brain diseases—indeed I have very lately attended the two grandchildren of a very singular character, and they both died of meningitis.

This paper has been written merely to call attention to an important subject—a subject, I fear, but little understood, but one in which the public safety, as well as our own professional reputation, is deeply involved. I write that I may stimulate others more competent than myself to the enquiry.
—*Provincial Med. & Surg. Journal.*

ARTICLE III.

LIFE AND TRIAL OF DR. ABNER BAKER, JR.,

(A monomaniac,) who was executed October 3d, 1845, for the alleged murder of his brother-in-law, DANIEL BATES; including Letters and Petitions for his pardon, and a narrative of the circumstances attending his execution, &c. &c. By C. W. CROZIER. Trial and evidence, by A. R. M'KEE. Louisville, Ky., Prentice & Weissinger, printers: 1846.

The document whose title-page we have here quoted at length, albeit a deplorable specimen of book-making in

which one is constantly getting bewildered in a maze of petitions, evidence, letters, speeches and certificates mixed up in the strangest confusion, discloses one of those revolting cases of judicial ignorance and barbarity which fill us with horror and amazement. It is with feelings of unspeakable mortification and sorrow, that we find it reserved for the year of our Lord 1845, in the State of Kentucky, to present us, in the administration of the law, with a triumph of passion, revenge, ignorance and political faction over the pleadings of humanity and science, unparalleled, we venture to say, in the judicial history of our country. We shall not spend words upon the actors in this affair, for such persons would heed the strongest expressions of public indignation, as little as the wind. People who are addicted to such pungent arguments as bowie-knives and pistol-bullets, would scarcely feel the paper-pellets, of the brain. As faithful journalists of matters connected with insanity, we could not overlook this case, while it will give those worthy people who mourn over the prevalence of the plea of insanity in defence of crime, an opportunity to see the other side of the matter, and derive what consolation they can, from the sight of a wretched maniac proclaiming his wild delusions from the gibbet.

Dr. Baker, the accused in this case, was a practising physician in Clay county, Kentucky, of a well-known and respectable family, and at his decease, about 30 years of age. One of the editors of this publication states that as early as 1838 and 1839, he manifested some singularities of deportment that caused much speculation among his friends. Once while attending the medical lectures, he suddenly and without the least provocation, began to abuse a fellow-student for looking at his head,—suspecting him of looking at a lock of white hair—and threatening to take his life if he did it again. He then resided with this editor who also says—though neither of these facts appeared in evidence at the trial—that he would frequently alarm the family at a late hour in the night by crying out that some persons were in

the house. We would light a candle, and followed by Dr. Baker, who was armed with the tongs, or shovel, would examine every apartment, even to the garret, and he would after this still insist that there were persons in the house, as he heard them whispering. We hear nothing more of his mental irregularities until within a year of the homicide, when some notions he expressed to his father respecting Bates' treatment of his wife, awakened in the latter's mind, the suspicion which he had previously entertained, that his son was becoming deranged. This and the following facts respecting his mental condition, we find in the evidence given at the trial.

In May, 1844, he married a young girl of a wealthy and respectable family, herself of an unblemished character, and went to reside in the family of this James Bates, whose wife was a sister of Baker. From this time till the day of his execution, he was possessed with the idea that his wife was unchaste,—a subject indeed of *nymphomania*. On this point, he seems to have spoken very freely and with almost everybody, and among a multitude of persons whom he mentioned as having criminal intercourse with his young wife, at one time or another, was her teacher, her uncles, this brother-in-law Bates, and even negroes. He believed that she commenced this infamous conduct as early as her ninth or tenth year, and continued it at every opportunity subsequently. In regard to some of these persons, he declared that they came into his sleeping room at night, and accomplished their purpose, even in his own presence, and that on one occasion, whilst visiting his father's family, his own mother lent her assistance. He also imagined that his mother and sisters kept a house of ill-fame, that Bates treated his own wife with great cruelty, and had debauched her younger sister, and that, in conjunction with his (Baker's) wife, he once attempted to poison him. He told a witness that they gave him some toddy, and though he took but a sip of it, yet "it swelled up his head until it felt as large as a bushel; and that if he had drank as much as usual, it would

have blown him to hell in five minutes." He frequently expressed his belief that Bates was at the head of a conspiracy to kill him, and that for this purpose, he had collected muskets and other weapons in his house, and had set his negroes to waylay him in secluded places.

During the period between his marriage and the homicide, he manifested various symptoms of bodily ill-health. His brother, also a physician, testified that "his bowels were costive, stomach irritable, mucous membrane covering the mouth and fauces red and much swollen," and was "watchful and restless." Another witness stated that "his countenance had a haggard expression," and he "looked as if just recovering from a spell of sickness." He seems to have neglected his business, and taken but little interest in anything beyond the circle of his delusions. Finally, after one attempt in which he was defeated by the vigilance of Bates, he succeeded in shooting his victim, on the 13th of September, 1844. He made no attempt to escape, was quietly arrested, tried by a magistrate, and discharged on the ground of insanity. His brothers took him home with them and endeavored to restore him to health, but not completely succeeding in this purpose, they concluded at the end of some three or four months, to send him to Cuba, for the benefit of change of air, scene, &c. While here, Governor Owsley of Kentucky issued a proclamation in which Baker was described as a fugitive from justice, and a reward offered for his arrest. This immediately induced his family to get him home, and surrender him to the authorities of the State.

His trial began on the 7th of July, 1845, before Hon. Tunstet Quarles, Judge of the 15th Judicial District. Public feeling seems to have been much excited; the friends of the deceased, and of the prisoner respectively, made unusual efforts, the former to obtain his conviction, the latter his acquittal; armed men were observed in every part of the Court room; and a long array of eminent counsel appeared on each side. A considerable number of witnesses were examined, to whom the largest liberty was allowed in giv-

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In May, 1844, he married a young girl of a wealthy and respectable family, herself of an unblemished character, and went to reside in the family of this James Bates, whose wife was a sister of Baker. From this time till the day of his execution, he was possessed with the idea that his wife was unchaste,—a subject indeed of *nymphomania*. On this point, he seems to have spoken very freely and with almost everybody, and among a multitude of persons whom he mentioned as having criminal intercourse with his young wife, at one time or another, was her teacher, her uncles, this brother-in-law Bates, and even negroes. He believed that she commenced this infamous conduct as early as her ninth or tenth year, and continued it at every opportunity subsequently. In regard to some of these persons, he declared that they came into his sleeping room at night, and accomplished their purpose, even in his own presence, and that on one occasion, whilst visiting his father's family, his own mother lent her assistance. He also imagined that his mother and sisters kept a house of ill-fame, that Bates treated his own wife with great cruelty, and had debauched her younger sister, and that, in conjunction with his (Baker's) wife, he once attempted to poison him. He told a witness that they gave him some toddy, and though he took but a sip of it, yet "it swelled up his head until it felt as large as a bushel: and that if he had drank as much as usual, it would

have blown him to hell in five minutes." He frequently expressed his belief that Bates was at the head of a conspiracy to kill him, and that for this purpose, he had collected muskets and other weapons in his house, and had set his negroes to waylay him in secluded places.

During the period between his marriage and the homicide, he manifested various symptoms of bodily ill-health. His brother, also a physician, testified that "his bowels were costive, stomach irritable, mucous membrane covering the mouth and fauces red and much swollen," and was "watchful and restless." Another witness stated that "his countenance had a haggard expression," and he "looked as if just recovering from a spell of sickness." He seems to have neglected his business, and taken but little interest in anything beyond the circle of his delusions. Finally, after one attempt in which he was defeated by the vigilance of Bates, he succeeded in shooting his victim, on the 13th of September, 1844. He made no attempt to escape, was quietly arrested, tried by a magistrate, and discharged on the ground of insanity. His brothers took him home with them and endeavored to restore him to health, but not completely succeeding in this purpose, they concluded at the end of some three or four months, to send him to Cuba, for the benefit of change of air, scene, &c. While here, Governor Owsley of Kentucky issued a proclamation in which Baker was described as a fugitive from justice, and a reward offered for his arrest. This immediately induced his family to get him home, and surrender him to the authorities of the State.

His trial began on the 7th of July, 1845, before Hon. Tunstet Quarles, Judge of the 15th Judicial District. Public feeling seems to have been much excited; the friends of the deceased, and of the prisoner respectively, made unusual efforts, the former to obtain his conviction, the latter his acquittal; armed men were observed in every part of the Court room; and a long array of eminent counsel appeared on each side. A considerable number of witnesses were examined, to whom the largest liberty was allowed in giv-

ing their testimony, much of which was mere hearsay and rumor. Whether the Courts of Kentucky ever pretend to be governed by any rules of evidence, is what we do not know; but in this case, certainly, there was a complete defiance of all rules recognised in this part of the world, for the witnesses were permitted to ramble on pretty much as they pleased. The two following passages, each of which is a continuous extract, will give the reader some idea of what is considered evidence in Kentucky.

"Witness was at the Lunatic Asylum in Lexington, and saw the inmates, and did not then believe that a man could be deranged upon one subject and not upon all. Witness was told by Mrs. Dr. Reid, that Dr. Reid said that Dr. Baker was deranged, and had been in that condition for twelve months. Said damn his derangement. Witness had a conversation with Mr. Woodcock the clerk of Clay, and attorney Einsworth, and they said that the best ground of Abner Baker's defence was derangement, and witness said then that was a fashionable way of defence. Witness has since read upon the subject a little and heard some conversation, and now has no doubt that Abner Baker is a monomaniac."—p. 31.

"Witness told Baker that a neighbor woman had told his (witness's) wife, that Bates had said that if he (Baker) ever came down, he would kill him."—p. 15.

After this specimen, no one can be surprised that most of the witnesses, though not medical men, were allowed to express their *opinion* respecting Baker's mental condition, and the manner in which some of them expatiated on this point, is certainly curious if not very instructive. Two medical witnesses only were examined, one for the government, the other for the prisoner. The former, Dr. Reid, seems to have obtained some new light on the subject of insanity, which we feel bound to notice for the sake of our professional brethren who might not otherwise receive its benefits. He states that "he had not expressed the opinion that Dr. B. was insane, but he has been of the opinion that Dr. B. was laboring under illusions of mind in regard to his wife."

Again he says, that "a person who can lay all his plans for carrying out anything desired, to be accomplished, would not be laboring under insanity." This gentleman's answers seemed to be the mere echo of the questions put to him by either side, for he finally admitted that supposing the facts respecting Baker's extraordinary notions, as we have mentioned them above, to be true, he was unquestionably insane. Dr. Richardson of Lexington who, for many years had been a professor in the Transylvania University, was called by the other side, and though he had never been devoted expressly to the care of the insane, yet he appears to have seen somewhat more of it than most practitioners. He had visited Baker in jail, and heard the testimony at the trial, and could have no doubt that he was insane. His notion, however, that the position Baker sat in was strongly indicative of insanity, savors more of the fanciful than the scientific. But the evidence established beyond a doubt the existence of Baker's delusions, while it disclosed not a shadow of foundation for them in the conduct of his wife or of Bates. Indeed there was no attempt to prove that their characters were otherwise than irreproachable, or that his delusions were not as baseless as the fabric of a vision.

All the counsel declined to furnish their speeches to the editor, except one who pleaded for the prisoner, so that we do not know on what ground they urged his conviction. Neither does the charge of the Court to the jury appear, and therefore we are left in the dark as to the views of the Court on the law of insanity. The jury were out two days, and it is not the least remarkable trait of this remarkable trial, that, "during a great part of the time," as the editor states, "a large body of influential men, most of them armed, stood in full view of the jury." It is not surprising that the result of *such* deliberations was the conviction of the prisoner. A motion was made for a new trial, but without success; sentence was pronounced, and a day appointed for the execution. Thus ended another act of this judicial tragedy. A sadder is to follow.

The friends of Baker now made every effort to procure his pardon. Six of the jury signed a paper recommending him to mercy—we say *signed*, though two of them made their mark, “like honest, plain dealing men,”—in which they say that Baker “was in a state of mental excitement and delusion respecting his wife and said Bates, which may be considered insanity.” One of this number also certifies, among other things, that “from the evidence, they believed that Dr. Baker was deranged upon those subjects, and not a fit subject for example; but from our understanding of the law applied to the evidence we had to find a verdict of guilt. I do farther certify,” he continues, “that if the delusions which were proved upon Baker had been facts, it would have been a full and good excuse for killing him (Bates).”

Another certificate in which the same sentiments are expressed in the same words, was signed by four other jurymen.* Such a juxtaposition of the most latitudinarian indulgence to crime with the most servile obedience to the letter of the law, is without its like in all the annals of criminal jurisprudence within our knowledge. Applications for his pardon were made by hundreds of persons, comprising some of the most respectable and best known citizens in the State. The leading medical men in Kentucky among whom were several professors in the Transylvania University, and our friend Dr. Allan, the worthy Superintendent of the Kentucky Lunatic Asylum, after examining the testimony given at the trial, declared their belief that he was deeply insane when he committed the homicide. The result of the movement was only to procure a reprieve of a few weeks, and he was finally executed on the 3d of Oct. 1845. Under the gallows he made a speech, rehearsing his delusions respecting his wife and Bates, and glorying in the

* These worthy gentlemen, in the course of their deliberations at the point of the bowie-knife, found something very like a mare's nest. “We do further certify,” they say, “that we did not look upon the authorities which were read on the part of the defence, *as law*, which authorities, or some of them, were Beck's Medical Jurisprudence, Ray's Medical Jurisprudence, and other works.”

the bloody deed for which he suffered. Taking hold of the rope, he exclaimed with the bitterest feelings, "behold the necklace of a whore." Thus, under the sacred names of justice and law, was enacted a fearful tragedy that outraged both, and whose parallel can be found, we apprehend, only in the proceedings of the Committee of Public Safety in Paris during the Reign of Terror.

Various incidents are recorded illustrative of the *animus* that presided over the whole progress of this case, a particular notice of which would be foreign to our purpose, but the part taken in it by one personage we can not pass over in silence. By a refinement of cruelty worthy of the Inquisition, his family were not permitted by the jailor to visit him in jail, even at a moment when he was supposed to be dying from the effects of a wound he had inflicted upon himself for a suicidal purpose. This outrage was not considered sufficient without the addition of an insult. The father traveled fifty miles in search of the Judge to obtain from him the requisite permission to see his son. It was given with the qualification that the jailor might still do as he pleased about allowing an interview, and accordingly he pleased not to. The *Governor* was then requested to give a letter of permission, which he did with the same qualification. The result was the same, and this stricken family had no opportunity of seeing the prisoner till he was led out for execution. And yet persons apparently friendly to Baker were allowed to frequent his prison, and "induce him to say or acknowledge things disadvantageous to himself, which would immediately be laid before the Governor." Not satisfied with this, they stole his private papers.*

It is intimated that much of the zeal manifested by those who took an active part in the prosecution, was the offspring

* It is stated, that the guard who were placed around the jail, would taunt and abuse him, and also, that "for sometime previous to the execution, his hands were tied behind him." In the name of humanity, we ask, are such practices usual in Kentucky, or were they reserved as a sort of climax to the cruelty and indignity heaped upon this miserable maniac?

of political party spirit, and it is more than insinuated, that in the course taken by Governor Owsley, he was the willing tool of the same clique that had used such audacious measures to procure Baker's conviction. The book certainly, furnishes strong *prima facie* evidence that he was actuated by improper motives, for his conduct can be explained on no just views of executive duty. There is no formal statements of his reasons for refusing to stay the course of judgment, but from the remarks of others it is to be inferred, that it was not because he disbelieved the fact of the prisoner's insanity, but because he doubted his right to interfere with what he regarded as the jurisdiction of the court. He knew, it seems, that by the common law, if a prisoner under sentence of death become insane, he should be respited until his reason is restored; but the respite, he thought, should proceed from the Court; and the Court we suppose, thought it should emanate from the Executive, and thus, in consequence of their ignorance of the full extent of their respective powers, a respite which the law allowed, was not granted at all, and an innocent man was executed. We suppose of course that the issue made by the Governor was the true one; if it were otherwise so much the worse for him. His position in regard to this case, is one, which no high-minded man will covet, for we see not how he can escape a large share of the infamy attached to the whole transaction. These are harsh words to apply to the Governor of a State, but unless this book is a tissue of falsehoods and forgeries from beginning to end, we see not how any person can read it impartially, without participating in our conclusions. We speak more in sorrow than in anger. A proper pride of country would have induced us to bury in oblivion, if possible, a case indicative of a state of civilization more like that of the middle ages than of the nineteenth century. But an imperative sense of duty impels us to hold up its atrocities to the public view, in the hope that such exposure will convey an impressive and a salutary lesson. When a gross outrage is committed on the rights of humanity, we regard

it as the duty of every honest man, when seasonable opportunity offers, to proclaim his disapprobation in tones that shall reach the wrong-doer even in his most secret refuge.

In taking leave of this case, we would express the hope, that no similar one will ever be permitted again to disgrace our country and the age.

I. R.

ARTICLE IV.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PATHOLOGY OF INSANITY.

By PLINY EARLE, M. D. *Physician to the Bloomingdale Asylum for the Insane.*

NO. II.

INSANITY ACCOMPANIED BY PHTHISIS PULMONALIS.

Human life among the insane, as well as in the community at large, is frequently terminated by that fell disease, the most striking pathological characteristic of which, is the existence of tubercular depositions in the lungs.

In some cases, although the patient may not have exhibited any symptoms of consumption when first attacked by insanity, that disease, at a period more or less subsequently remote, begins to manifest itself, and while the mental disorder continues undiminished in severity, progresses through its several stages, until the lungs, corroded, and excavated to comparatively mere "shells," are no longer competent to the office of oxygenising the blood. Death is then the inevitable result.

In other cases,—and perhaps the broad dominion of human pathology furnishes no examples of greater interest—the two affections alternate in the same person. While symptoms of mental alienation are present, no evidence of

pulmonic lesion is apparent, but as soon as the mind is restored to reason, the tubercular disease is developed and continues its progress until arrested by the reappearance of insanity. These alternations are kept up until the patient succumbs generally to the more powerful of the two diseases,—Phthisis.

In the subjoined cases insanity existed during the whole progress of tubercular consumption.

CASE I.

J. D. an unmarried man between 60 and 70 years of age with dark eyes, hair and beard, and nervous-bilious temperament, had been insane more than twenty years, when he came under my care, and no history of his case was furnished.

1840, May 1st. His general health appears good, though he is somewhat emaciated. Every morning, after arranging his room he takes a walk in the gallery, and sits through the rest of the day. He has a chair in which he has thus sat for eight years past. It always stands in a certain place, and woe to the person other than himself who attempts to occupy it. He rarely speaks unless spoken to, or when under high excitement. In the latter case, he is vociferous and profane. He shakes hands with no one because he "has scruples against it," and when his health is enquired after, the invariable answer is "I am poor."

July 1st., He is more emaciated and his appetite impaired. He coughs, but says "it is to clear himself of poison and persecution."

August 1st., Has debilitating "night-sweats;" appetite voracious; cough continues—it is dry, or, if not, the expectorated matter is swallowed. He is irritable and petulant; has removed his chair to his bed-room, where he sits with his head reclined upon the table.

11th., This morning he asked for "some of what the world calls opium, but what I call O. P. and some of what the world calls assafetida, but what I call O. S. F." He thought these would relieve his harrassing cough, and they

were given him. He would submit to no medical treatment other than that by himself prescribed.

20th., Pulse varies from 96 to 130, summit of the head always very warm; pupils contracted, cough accompanied by expectoration, which he never ejects from the mouth. He says the cough "shakes his whole body;" that he "is waiting for the regeneration of his body above the hips;" and that "his head is filled with a species of holy fire which no man can understand."

Appetite and temper capricious.

September 3d., all the symptoms of Phthisis are more aggravated than at the last date.

17th., He is so weak as to be unable to ascend or descend the stairs without assistance. Face occasionally œdematous. Ends of fingers have the swollen appearance generally accompanying the latter stages of phthisis.

October 7th., The patient has been confined to his bed several days. All his symptoms more intense. No diarrhoea. Respiration 44 per minute.

10th., He died during an unsuccessful attempt to relieve the bronchia.

Autopsy.

Head. Cranium of medium thickness and density; thicker on the left side than on the right. Dura mater unnaturally adherent to the cranium, but otherwise apparently normal.

Arachnoid membrane generally thickened and semi-opaque; adherent, in many places, to the pia mater. Between these two membranes are numerous flocculi of lymph, varying in size, from that of a mustard seed to that of a millet-seed. The inter-membranal space is also occupied by a quantity of serum so great that it elevates the arachnoid over the sulci, to a greater height than the summit of the cerebral convolutions. Nearly an ounce of serum at the base of the brain.

The arteries of the base and the posterior portions of the brain are unusually injected, giving a very red blush to the

surface. The veins generally are empty and their walls hypertrophied, making them feel like cartilage.

The sulci are shallow; the medullary matter generally, including that of the pons varolii, is thickly scattered, upon section, with bloody points. About two drachms of serum in each lateral ventricle. Upper half of the cerebellum appears to be somewhat softened.

Thorax. Both lungs strongly adherent to the parietes of their respective cavities, excepting at the base and inferior lateral half. The upper lobe of the left lung is entirely destroyed with the exception of its surface, thus leaving nothing but a large sac with exceedingly thin parietes. The upper lobe of the right lung contains several cavities, the largest of which is nearly two inches in diameter. The lower lobes of both lungs contain miliary tubercles.

Mucous membrane of bronchia thickened and engorged.

Abdomen. Mesenteric glands enlarged, white. No tubercles in the peritoneum. There are two small ulcers in the small intestine near the ileo-coecal valve.

CASE II.

F. W——, an unmarried man, aged 45 years, formerly an officer in the British army, became insane in October 1843, and on the 27th of that month was placed under treatment at an asylum. He was tall, his complexion dark, temperament sanguine-bilious, head remarkably well-formed, and cerebral developement large. Nearly twenty years since he suffered an attack of mental derangement in England, and some years after, a second in Germany. His father, a brother and a sister have also been insane. He had been in America eleven years, perfectly sane until the present attack. He is said to have been a great sportsman, and addicted to the use of alcoholic liquors in excess. This attack was attributed to intemperance.

He was under the effects of intoxicating draught when admitted and was boisterous and violent. Soon afterwards, symptoms of delirium tremens supervened, and were com-

bated by cathartics and anodynes. These passing off he was left a maniac, imagining himself to be Deity, and dressing his hat fantastically with feathers, twigs, &c. He was subjected to a course of treatment consisting of alteratives and anodynes, followed by vegetable and mineral tonics.

On the 1st of April, 1844, he came under my care, apparently in an incurable condition. His appetite and general health were good,—He walked much, but all his motions were very moderate. He did not speak unless spoken to, and then briefly, and only in a whisper.

He was put upon the use of the extract of conium, and, subsequently, a seton was introduced into the nucha, which discharged freely, several months. In the latter part of the summer, 1844, he had the Bilious remittent fever which confined him in bed about three weeks. He now ceased to answer questions, excepting by an affirmative or negative motion of the head, and was not known to utter a word, even in whisper, for more than thirteen months. A few days before his death, when his bodily suffering had become severe, this voluntary silence was broken; he talked considerably, and appeared to be more nearly rational than might have been supposed.

In the spring of 1845, he began to emaciate, gradually losing his appetite and his strength. He soon discontinued his daily walks out of doors, and kept his bed more than before. Still, however, he observed all the disciplinary measures of the house, silently but punctually. The symptoms of phthisis became more and more apparent, and increased until he died, Oct. 21st., 1845. His cough was mostly dry, and never accompanied by purulent expectoration.

Autopsy.

Head. Cranium thick, dense, and almost without diploe. Dura mater not unusually adherent to the skull, but, for seven inches along the median line, on a space of from one-

fourth of an inch to an inch in width, on either hemisphere of the cerebrum, it is strongly adherent to the subjacent membranes, and, in some places, through them, to the brain. Throughout a circular space of nearly two inches in diameter, at the vertex of the head, partly upon either hemisphere, but most upon the left, are numerous tubercular, or granular depositions, some of them above and some beneath the arachnoid.

The arachnoid is thickened over all the superior and lateral surfaces of the cerebrum of both hemispheres, as well as along the borders of their bases. It is also thickened, on nearly every portion of the surface of the cerebellum. This pathological condition is greatest on the superior and posterior regions of the cerebrum, where the membrane is opaline, semi-opaque, or translucent. It adheres to the pia-mater in many places, on both the cerebrum and cerebellum. Below the falx, in the interhemispherical space, the same membrane is thickened and translucent, and the portions which cover the two hemispheres are connected with each other by short filamentous adhesions.

The space between the arachnoid and pia-mater is filled with limpid serum, particularly in the superior and posterior regions of the cerebrum, where the arachnoid is the most diseased. As the sulci are remarkably deep, the quantity of the effusion is large, being nearly six ounces.

The vessels of the pia-mater are abnormally injected though not intensely so. Aside from this, and the adhesions, already mentioned, this membrane does not materially deviate from a healthy condition.

The base of the brain appears normal, except the thickening of the arachnoid along its borders.

The ciliary substance is apparently of healthy consistence, its color is rather pallid, and it is thought to be somewhat atrophied. A section being made, the medullary matter is soon strewn with many bloody points.

The plexus choroides is large, and the pineal gland contains a considerable quantity of calcareous matter. There

is a small quantity of serum in the lateral ventricles. The brain was removed from the cranium before these were opened.

Thorax. The right lung is strongly adherent to the parietes throughout its whole surface. It contains innumerable tubercles, those of the upper lobe being farther advanced than the others; yet none have suppurated. Left lung adherent at the summit to the walls of the chest. It contains myriads of miliary tubercles disseminated nearly equal through all parts, from apex to base. The whole of the right lung, and the lower lobe of the left are considerably congested with blood. A remarkable quantity of calcareous matter in and about the bronchial glands.

Abdominal viscera not examined.

ARTICLE V.

THE TRIAL OF AGOSTINHO RABELLO,

For the Murder of FERRIS BEARDSLEY, at New Preston, Conn., April 27, 1835.

[The following interesting Report, so far as relates to the Medical Jurisprudence of Insanity, we consider one of the most important of which we have any knowledge. We were present at the trial, and can vouch for the correctness of this account.—*Ed. Jour. of Insanity.*]

SUPERIOR COURT, *Litchfield, Conn., August 18, 1835.*

Present—Judges. WAIT and WILLIAMS.

Counsel for the Prosecution—Leman Church, Esq.,
State's Attorney—George C. Woodruff, Esq.

For the Prisoner.—Truman Smith, Esq.—O. S. Seymour, Esq.

The charge against the accused was then stated, and the witnesses called.

Mrs. Sally Beardsley.—I am the mother of Ferris, the boy murdered. Ferris told me a few days before his death, that he accidentally stepped on Rabello's toes, in the shop. The afternoon before Ferris was killed, he was passing before Rabello, and trod on his toe, or hit his foot. Rabello said, "Is there no other way?" and appeared to be in a great passion; he went up stairs, and did not return that evening. In the morning he came down, but did not, as he usually had done, take the key and the fire to the shop; he went out and stood by the apple tree; I passed him twice while standing there, once on going, and again on returning from the barn. Ferris took fire to the shop; soon after, Rabello came in, in haste; said something I did not understand; went up stairs; came down with his cloak, and went off. His appearance attracted the attention of Mrs. Gaylord and myself; we went to see where he had gone; we looked out of the front window; he was a number of rods from the house, walking very fast. Mrs. Gaylord went out; I met her returning; she said Rabello had killed Ferris; I went out, found the body under the tree, and brought it in.

Cross examined. After Ferris trod on his toes, in the shop, Rabello manifested much ill will towards him. The afternoon before he killed Ferris, Rabello was called down from the chamber to tea; Ferris had taken his seat at the table opposite the side he usually sat. When Rabello came down, he stood a short time against the chamber door, and seemed indifferent about sitting down at the table. When he did, he looked at Ferris with a very disdainful smile; refused to take bread when Ferris passed it. Ferris ever treated Rabello with respect and kindness. Do not believe Ferris ever insulted him. We as a family treated him with kindness. It was on the Sabbath when we were seated around the fire, that Ferris passed him and hit his foot. Rabello had been with us about six weeks. He seldom be-

gan conversation ; always ready to answer questions ; was free to converse about his own country ; never saw him standing and gazing about ; appeared like other folks, who have no home.

Mrs. Roxy Gaylord testified to the same facts.

Mr. Beers Beardsley.—The father of murdered boy. On Saturday (middle of March) returned home ; saw this man Rabello sitting by the fire with his hat and cloak on. My wife said this man wants employment, and had lived with Mr. Lum. I said I did not know as I wanted to hire ; had not much work to do ; he said he did not want to hire, but wanted to stay with me. I did not give him a direct answer ; I invited him to stay over the Sabbath. Along in the afternoon, a little girl came in with shoes to be mended. He seemed desirous to go to work at them ; he did, and got one done by night. Next day, I got him paper, and he wrote his name handsomely ; he read also from the Testament rather broken ; I then asked him to read it in his own language, which he did. Next morning, he wanted to go to work ; said he could do coarse work, and he wished to learn and have a home. I set him to work on a pair of boots ; he was ever ready to work ; showed no absent mindedness about his work. Some time after he had been with me, I found he was out of health ; I proposed to him to have a doctor ; he said doctors want pay. I gave him a twenty-five cent piece, and told him to go to Dr. Stones' ; he did not seem inclined to go. Some time after, Dr. Hatch came into the shop ; I requested him to prescribe for Rabello ; Dr. Hatch felt of his pulse, and gave him medicine. Rabello took the medicine two or three times, and gave it up ; he seemed to have some anxiety about his health ; took some new medicine ; after awhile he seemed to get better ; his appetite grew better ; he became more cheerful ; entered into conversation ; talked about the productions of his own country ; compared them with the productions of this ; said the timber here was larger than in his country ; said that there was no snow there ; that our fences were poorer

than theirs; said there was a hill in Maderia from which one could see all over the Island. When I went away, I would leave directions with him about my business, which he punctually observed. About a week before he quit, I asked him if he had not better go where he could get wages; he made no reply. I inquired of him if he did not want articles from the store; he said, "what articles? clothing?" I replied, yes; he made no answer. At supper, Sunday evening, he did not seem to sit down as readily as usual. In the morning when I was in bed, I heard Ferris inquiring for the shop key; he came into my bed-room for the key; the next thing I heard was Rabello going up stairs; he made a strange noise: soon after heard something about Rabello's going away; the next thing was I heard Mrs. Gaylord halloo. I was shocked and jumped up; reached the door as my wife was going out; she brought Ferris in and laid him on the floor. I soon started to find Rabello, and met him in custody of those who took him about two thirds of the way from where they took him. I asked him why he had done this? he raised up his head, and with a haughty smile said, "Time will determine or bring forth." He was first led to my house, and then to Mr. Newton's tavern. I asked him again why he killed Ferris? he said he stepped upon his toes, insulted and mocked him. I asked him what would be the consequences of such an act in his country? I understood him to say, death. I took the axe from the ground; it was struck in with such force as nearly to cover the whole axe; the helve was bloody.

State's Attorney. Mr. Beardsley, did you discover any indications of insanity in Rabello during the six weeks he lived with you?

Answer. I did not: he always answered questions correctly; gave me some particulars of his history; he told me how he was treated in the upper village when he first came to New Preston; all of which I found to be true. I inquired of him about the laws of his country; what they did with criminals? he said, for murder they hung them; for theft

and other crimes they banished them to Africa ; he seemed to understand law. After he was taken, I once said to him, you gave Ferris no time to have counsel ; but you in this bloody act will have counsel : he said I don't ask any.

Cross examined. I suppose he never served an apprenticeship at shoe-making. Ferris was my only son. Saw no misconduct on the part of Ferris towards Rabello ; did not know of any difficulty between Ferris and Rabello except what my wife told me, that Ferris told her that Rabello was angry because he had stepped on his toes. I saw Rabello standing by the chamber door, when he came down to supper Sunday evening ; wondered at it. I observed in the week before Ferris was killed, that when he offered bread to Rabello, he refused to take it ; never knew him to refuse bread offered to him by others. In one or two instances, saw Rabello standing alone for some time ; appeared lonely. He never appeared offended with regard to toes to my knowledge. In the shop when at work, we sat facing each other, our feet nearly touching each others ; I threw down my hammer and lapstone as usual, but never saw him manifest any fears about his toes. He was not so free to converse as men usually are, spent his sabbaths in the house ; not a drinking man ; never caught him in a lie.

Mr. Lucius Gaylord testified to many similar facts, and added, that when arrested Rabello said, " dozens and thousands want serving the same way : " I repeated the question, why he killed the boy ? He said the boy tempted him, insulted him, stepped on his toes. *Mr. Stone* and myself led Rabello back ; led him to the corpse : I said, see what you have done. He raised his head and eyes, and said, " God will forgive me." After that at Newton's tavern, I talked with him about the murder. He said he did not consider it murder ; the boy had insulted him ; had stepped on his toes. I asked him what he considered murder ? He said, wilfully and deliberately killing another without any reason ;

not murder to revenge an insult. After Mr. Beardsley conversed with Rabello at Newton's, he appeared different; before that he grinned and grated his teeth: after Mr. B. talked with him, he appeared sorry and cried.

Cross examined. Rabello when taken at the brook, expressed an unwillingness to return; he hung back; we pushed him along—appeared paler than usual. Did not consider the act of raising his head and eyes, and saying "God will forgive me," as an appeal to the Supreme Being, but simply an assertion. Noticed Rabello smiled at the table, but it did not attract my attention. Noticed that he refused bread from Ferris, and afterward helped himself.

Doctor Jefferson Stone.—I was at the house when Rabello was brought back. I pointed at Ferris, and asked Rabello if he did that? He said, "Yes, and God will forgive me." I asked him why he did it? He said as has been stated, that Ferris trod on his toes the night before, and at other times had insulted and mocked him. I asked him how he killed him? He said the boy was coming past him, that he asked him for the axe, and took it from him, and struck him on the head; that he made no noise. I asked him why he struck him so many blows? "He replied, "that no part of it might be left alive." He once observed that a great many big men had done the like of that.

Examined. Observed no aberration of mind—answered questions rationally—discovered nothing in his countenance indicating insanity; he was much excited at first—appeared to be angry—afterwards he cooled down.

Cross examined. Ferris was a very amiable boy; not possessed of a disposition to tease or insult any one. Saw Rabello daily; never saw him standing in a fixed position; saw him but once in the street. Ferris had prominent eyes, and would stare at a person talking with him.

Wm. Stone, Isaac D. Batterson, and Mr. Simeon Batterson, testified to facts very similar.

The State's Attorney now announced to the Court, that

he should rest the case on the part of the prosecution for the present, without calling more witnesses.

The defence was then opened by Truman Smith, Esq., one of the counsel for the prisoner, in a very few remarks. As there was no question as to the fact that Rabello killed Ferris Beardsley, the only defence set up was insanity.

Witnesses were then called in behalf of the prisoner.

Catharine Elizabeth Beardsley.—The day before brother Ferris was killed, (Sunday,) we were sitting round the fire, Ferris in one corner and I in the other, Agostinho next to Ferris, and ma between me and Agostinho. Ferris and I went up stairs; when we came down, Ferris passed between his chair and Agostinho's; his foot slipped and hit Agostinho's; there was room enough between Agostinho's chair and the other for one to pass. Ferris did not step on his foot; he hit it; his foot slipped against it; Rabello said, "Is there no other way?" Rabello looked angry, very angry; his eyes rolled up; he sat but a few minutes before he got up and went up stairs. At the table he sat and looked at Ferris; looked angry; refused to take bread when Ferris handed it. I never saw my brother tease, insult, or do anything bad to Rabello. Sunday night I asked Ferris if he would sleep with Rabello; he said no; he was afraid of him; he spoke so.

Doctor Johnson C. Hatch.—Live in New Preston, in the upper city or village, so called, about a mile from Mr. Beardsley's. Early in March, as I was returning from New Preston Hill, saw a man standing in the road motionless, with his eyes directed one way; his fixed position drew my attention; when I came up to him, I stopped my horse, inquired if he was a stranger in the place? He said yes. I inquired if he wished direction? He made no reply. I inquired if he was hungry? he made no answer. I told him if he wanted anything to go to my house, and pointed it out to him. Soon after I got home, this man came in; conversed with him; said he was a Portuguese; had been in this country two years. I thought he needed care for the night,

and offered him some change ; he drew back ; told him he would want lodgings ; and that at the tavern they might want pay. He was still unwilling to take the money ; I threw it into his cap ; I gave him particular directions to the tavern, he went out. I saw no more of him that night. The next time I saw him was at Mr. Beardsley's. Mrs. Beardsley requested me to call and leave something for their man ; went and found him to be the same man I have spoken of ; examined him, and advised the use of an astringent herb ; told him to come to my house after using it a day or two ; he did not come ; several days after, as I was passing, saw Rabello with Mr. Beardsley in the yard ; inquired of him how he was ; he made no reply. Mr. Beardsley said Rabello did not take much of the medicine. I told him he ought to persevere ; that was the last I saw of him.

Examined. Had a view of Rabello the first time I saw him for half a mile : he stood still during the time I was riding that distance ; his demeanor was singular ; appearance very melancholy. He answered some questions, but not equally as proper. It was cold inclement weather ; thought he needed protection ; that he would not probably make that provision for himself which he ought to have. I therefore invited him to come to my house. Thought then that he might not be perfectly sane. Subsequent interviews together with what I first saw of the man, convinced me that he was insane.

Doctor Charles Vail.—Live in the same house with Dr. Hatch. The first time I saw Rabello was on the same day Dr. Hatch first saw him, but earlier in the day. He was sitting on a horizontal tomb-stone in the burying-ground, wrapped up in his cloak, arms folded, looking on the ground. I understood by the family that he had been there the most of the day. After sun-set, I heard a singular rap ; went to the door, and the same man that I had seen in the burying-ground came in. I handed him a chair ; he sat down, said nothing, did not even turn his head. Dr. Hatch said to

him, "Go with me:" he started up suddenly, and followed him up stairs. I saw no more of him that night. The next morning, he rapped again in the same singular manner at the north front door; I went to the door; he put out his hand, and said, "Here is the money." I asked him why he did not keep it? he said, "They don't take the coin." I told him he had better keep it; he replied, "They don't take the coin at all," and went away. I did not see him again till I saw him at Newton's on the day Mr. Beardsley's son was killed.

Examined. I supposed him crazy; remarked so at the time: this opinion was based partly on the remarks of the family who had observed him most of the day in the burying-ground, and partly from my own observations. Did not see his eye; noticed a peculiar curling of the lip. It was a raw cold day; he sat in the grave yard a long time; I looked at him several times. In monomania, I suppose the whole mind to be deranged in regard to some one particular subject. Rabello's appearance at Newton's was very much the same as at my house, and as it is now.

Several other witnesses were called, who testified that they had noticed Rabello in the grave yard, and thought he acted strangely, and some supposed him crazy.

Roswell Wells.—I live in Monroe. I saw the prisoner at Mr. Lum's several times. Never heard him speak but once. I went one evening to Mr. Lum's shop to get a pair of boots; the prisoner was there. Mr. Lum was gone; he said he had gone to the bridge. I took my seat on a horse or bench, with my feet towards Rabello, the lamp standing between me and him. My feet, I should think, were two feet from his; he immediately drew his feet under his seat. I asked him if Mr. Lum had cut out my boots? where the leather was? whose shoes those were he was making? He replied to none of these questions; he rolled up his eyes and appeared very angry. He sat with his feet under his seat while I staid in the shop.

Cross examined. Rabello and I were strangers. I do

not mean to say I thought him crazy. I did not form any opinion with respect to his insanity.

Henry Lum.—I reside in Monroe. Rabello came to our house, Dec. 1834. When he came to my shop, he looked downcast, very much as he does now. He wanted employment; said he could work a little at my trade. The next day I set him to work. He told the same story about his history that he told others who have testified here. I asked him how he came to straggle about so? He said they turned him out of doors every where, mocked him and trod on his toes. He said he had done nothing to deserve such treatment. He staid about a fortnight before he began to complain of any ill treatment from persons about us. He then said persons came in the shop and tormented him, and trod on his toes. He said the boy insulted him, and stepped on his toes, and that he struck at him, but did not hit him. A week or more after this, he said people were plaguing him all the time, and that they were appointed to torment him. He said there had been one in the shop the night before, and stepped on his toes. (This conversation was the day after Mr. Wells was in the shop.) He said he could tell these tormentors as soon as he saw them, and that he would not work for them. Kept constantly harping about his tormentors. Towards the close of the time he lived with me, I brought some eels home; it was Saturday night. Sunday morning I dressed them; Rabello was present at the other end of the bench, and examined them; my little grand daughter stood near me. Monday I worked with him; Tuesday I went away, and told him to mend my little grand daughter's shoes. Thursday I came home; he had not mended the shoes. He asked me if I told the girl to tread on his toes at the time of dressing the eels? Told him no, and asked him what reason he had to suppose I did? He said every body did that; they served him so every where. He said, "If you told her to step on my toes, I will sole her shoes; if you did not, I won't. I said this won't do; I am master of my own shop, and you must either sole the shoes or clear out. He looked up; I

kept my eye on him : he sprang up and said, " You will be skinned like the eels." I told him he could not do it. He took some of his clothes and went into the street, and from thence into the burying ground. He made many wild gestures, jumped up and down, &c. We sent his clothes to him, but he refused to take them.

Examined. He seemed serious in his declarations about his treatment by appointed persons. He said the man who came there, (alluding to Mr. Wells,) had no business at all at the shop but to torment him. He asked me what he should do when people came in and insulted him, and stepped on his toes? He replied himself, " I know what ought to be done, they ought to be broken to pieces." He inquired what would be the punishment if they were broken in pieces. I said hanging. Said he thought not; he had a right to live without being tormented. I reasoned with him frequently on this subject, and tried to convince him that he was under a delusion. I always told our people he was a deranged man. I thought him perfectly free from art. I have no idea that he was dishonest. He was always treated as one of the family.

Cross examined. Rabello always answered correctly; told me his former history; said his parents turned against him; did not want to go back nor hear from them. He said that his friends put him aboard the vessel, and that he consented to come. He asked me five or six questions in all, while at my house. Never saw him out in a standing posture gazing on vacancy but once. I frequently left the shop in his charge; never was absent from home but one night while he lived with me; considered him capable of attending to business. He read well and wrote handsomely. Said he had been clerk in a counting-house in Brazil—that he understood French some, and had studied English Grammar. He wrote an obligation in the English language. I should not like to take his obligation. If I had one from him for property he had received of me, I should try to collect it, crazy or not. The boy might have vexed him; he

was fond of fun. I thought from the position of the girl at the time of dressing eels, that she could not have stepped on his toes. On the subject of his tormentors, he was in earnest. When he fancied himself insulted, he would ask, "What ought to be done?" It was impossible to correct him of this delusion.

Other witnesses confirmed many of the foregoing facts.

Schuyler Seely.—Live in Trumbull, near the grave-yard. Some time in the latter part of the month of August, I returned home from a journey. Some of the younger members of the family said there was a crazy man in the grave yard. My wife and myself went over to see him, carried him some food; he refused to take it; we left it on the ground near him: this was Wednesday evening. I said to him, I understand you fancied a young widow, and that she rejected your proposals. He said he had fancied no one. I asked him his name, and he told me. He then asked me mine, and I told him. Sunday morning, went to see him. I asked him if the boys had troubled him. He replied, "Those who sent them are greater fools than they were." He went home with me and took breakfast; read in the Bible; shaved himself; said it was a good razor. A young lady in the house wished him to write in her Album. Said he hardly knew what to write. He took the pen, however, thought a moment, and wrote the following lines:

Of night impatient, we demand the day,
The day arises, and for night we pray;
The day and night successive come and go;
Our lasting pains no interruption know.

I had treated him with kindness, and he appeared to place confidence in me. We walked out: he remarked freely about many things. He said our apple-trees were superior to theirs; but their peaches were better; said their hogs were black, and fed on roots; said some put considerable brandy in their wine. I asked him about his parents. Said he had parents. I asked him why he left them? Said he

had been abused. I asked him if his parents were wealthy? He said they had enough, he supposed. I asked him why he wandered about as he did? He said he was discouraged, and asked me, "How should you like to have people watching you, to prevent your getting employment? Persons are pursuing me wherever I go, and if I had the power, I would destroy them all." When he made these remarks, I turned suddenly upon him, and said, 'What have you done? have you been guilty of any crime?' He said, no; he had done nothing yet: persons were employed to pursue him and prevent his getting work. I then thought he was insane; thought this notion of being pursued was proof of his insanity. Afterwards I thought he might refer to the select men of the towns from which he had been warned out.

Cross examined. He seemed to understand what he was about, and appeared rational on all subjects except that of his pursuers.

Other witnesses testified to his strange unnatural conduct though not materially varying from the foregoing.

The counsel for prisoner here rested the defence. Witnesses were again called in behalf of the prosecution.

James Wilson.—Live in Fairfield woods. The first time I saw Rabello was in a small burying-place, the 3d of Aug. 1833. I went and spoke a few words with him, asked him where he was from, &c. He gave me the same answers he gave others who have testified here. Said he came last from New York. It was observed to me that he slept in the cider-mill. I went down next morning, and talked with him about an hour and a half. He gave me quite a history of himself; refused to go and get anything to eat. Next Monday, Mr. T. went and got him up to my house to breakfast. I asked him if he would shave? Said he would, if it was not too much trouble. Shaved, and at my request, gave his name on a piece of paper. Monday night, went after him, and got him home, and he spent the night with me. After that he spent nights with me. From the last of

August to the middle of October, he made it his home at my house. When I asked him home, he said it would be too much trouble to me. It was a common thing for him to say, "It would be too much trouble." Asked him about his clothing; said he had clothing at New York. I proposed sending for them. He said it would be too much trouble to me. It was with reluctance that he told me what street in New York his clothes were in, for fear of giving me too much trouble. He finally told me he left them at a shoe store, Broome street. I sent for them, and the next week a trunk came, containing shirts, stockings, two broadcloth coats, cap, brushes, razors, wash bowl and papers. Found also a letter from the Trustees of a Society in Rio Janeiro, and a copy of a letter from him to them. He occasionally, and willingly assisted me in work. Anxious to busy himself. Said the work was different from what he had been accustomed to. He said he did not have any food for two or three days, when he was in the cider-mill, except one or two penny's worth of bread which he bought at a grocery near there. He went from my house to Mr. Morehouse's. I saw no indications of insanity.

Cross examined. Don't know that he had any object in going to the grave yard. The greater part of time he was with me, he was social and cheerful. Sometimes he appeared melancholy and in reveries. Said nothing to me about laying up anything for himself. Said he was disgusted in Philadelphia and New York; but would not tell why. Left me because Anson Morehouse invited him to his house.

Anson Morehouse.—Rabello came from Capt. Wilson's to my house. I had invited him to come and stay till my brother returned from Rhinebeck. In October, came and staid steadily for three weeks. Sometimes he walked about where he pleased, and sometimes he went into the field to work with me; knew nothing about chopping, struck *woman-fashion*. He used to lead my little boy to school; set a great store by him; would take him in his lap and talk with

him. Left him at home alone. He never did anything to excite my surprise. I did not consider him insane ; considered him better informed than myself. I was in the field with Rabello pulling turnips, when the select men warned him out of town. Rabello made no reply. He went from my house to Ezra Morehouse's, and in December, came back to the cider-mill, and staid there, I believe, till he went to Mr. Lyon's.

Cross examined. He appeared gloomy at times ; would sit a considerable time silent, unless questioned. Don't know but I might speak oftener to him than he to me. He would sometimes begin conversation and make statements. Don't think he appears now as he did then—more gloomy now than then. When at the cider-mill, he appeared more melancholy than when with me.

Ezra Morehouse.—Live a mile from Capt. Wilson's. Monday morning, saw Rabello at the cider mill near the press ; passed the compliment. I asked him where he was from ? He told me. I asked him if he was going to stay there and die ? He said certainly. I asked him if that was the best way ? Said "I don't know." Said he was out of means, a stranger, did not know where to go ; did not wish to trouble anybody. Said he had a dollar when he left New York ; had spent the last for bread. He went up to Wilson's to breakfast. Saturday, saw him again, invited him to my house. Said he feared it would be too much trouble. He finally consented to go ; made remarks about the dams ; appeared well, very neat, was intelligent, grateful for what I did for him. When he went to bed, he bid my family good night. In the morning I told him I was going to meeting. He said he would walk about. He came back at night. He staid around with us a few days ; very solicitous to learn how business was done ; willing to take hold and assist. He told me he had left a cloak and other articles in a place he could not name ; left his cloak because it was burdensome. I went with him after his clothes. I was for taking one road which I thought he must have come.

He pointed out another. I followed his directions to Norwalk. I tied the horse; he got over the fence and said, "Here I slept, but the clothes are gone." There was a place which he had built up to sleep under. We found his clothes in a house near by; such articles as he said he had left. After I came from Rhinebeck, which was in November, he lived with me until Christmas day, during which time, I talked with him on every subject I could think of. He said he had parents and brothers, but was disgusted with them. I tried to learn why. He said it was of a private nature, and it would be of no use for us in the country to know, and might injure him. I asked him if it was about property? He said not wholly. Said he did not want to see them again. Talked to him about a widow in Brazil. He joked and laughed about it. He went with me to keep thanksgiving; appeared pleased. I sent him home at night; foddered and shelled corn as I directed. He said they had three holidays at Christmas in his country. After dinner, Christmas day, I said to Rabello, 'You had better take the school.' He appeared excited; took it as an insult; said "I had rather not," Took his cloak and went out; stood a few minutes at the well; walked on rapidly over the hill. I took my horse, and rode after him. When I came up to him, I said, 'Which way are you going?' He said he thought he would take a walk. I said 'You will be back to-night?' He said, "No; I never will go into your house again." Did not want to stay where he was not wanted. Could not induce him to return. It was an unpleasant day, it rained; told him he would suffer. He said, "If I have a mind to suffer, you have no cause to regret." He went off. I heard of him next at the cider-mill. Staid two days. I sent word to the select men of his situation. Seely, a select man, Anson Morehouse and Rabello, came to my house. Seely said, "I have informed Rabello that I have authority to take care of him, and have given him his choice of three places to live, and he chooses to live with you." I didn't want anything more to do with

him. I was satisfied that he was an ugly tempered fellow. I kept him, however, three weeks longer. He was not as social as when at my house before ; more melancholy ; did not converse so freely. I gave him a description of the poor house. Seely took him there ; he went cheerfully. Next morning I met him, saluted him ; he made no answer. I asked him where he was going ? Sprang forward in a passion and said, " Damn the fool who carried me there." He then went to the cider-mill again. I went to see him ; asked him if he liked the place ? He looked very mad ; wanted to know what right I had to appear in his presence ? When at my house, a little girl to whom he was much attached and attentive, stepped on his toes. He kicked at her with much violence. After that, he did not treat her with the same attention. He told me his toe-nails had come off, and that his toes were very tender. He showed us the nails. I saw him some time afterwards ; spoke to him ; he refused to answer.

Cross examined. The little girl who stepped on Rabello's toes, was about three years old. There is a very great change in his countenance ; looks very different now from what he did when at my house.

Anson Lyon.—Rabello came from the cider-mill to my house, Jan. 20, 1834. Wanted employment. Said he did not ask pay. While there, Seely came in, and prevailed on me to keep him. I took him in from charity. He staid with me a fortnight. Mr. Sherwood, keeper of the poor-house, came in, and asked some questions. Rabello would not answer. Mr. Sherwood said, " I don't think you have any tongue." Rabello flew into a passion, took up his shoe-knife, and shook it at him, and said, " I'll let you know I have a tongue as long as that." We asked him which he had rather do, stay here, or go to the poor-house ? He said there was nothing to do there. He staid with me two weeks longer. Mr. Morris agreed to take him ; I proposed it to Rabello ; said he had no objections, and went there. I had various conversations with him. Observed no inconherency

in his answers. He said he would not return to his friends for all the world ; was disgusted with them. Said he never served an apprenticeship at the shoe-making business ; that he took it up for his own benefit. He was very attentive to his work. He staid at Morris' four weeks ; from there he went to the cider-mill ; and from thence to John S. Wilson's ; thence to Pequonnock, two miles from me.

Cross examined. He said nothing to me about being mis-used in this country. Said nothing about tormentors. Took no notice of passing events. Never saw him when I thought he did not know what he was about.

Timothy Risley, Bridgeport, (Pequonnock.) Saw him at Mr. Nichols'. Saw his eyes glare towards the young men who asked him questions. On the 23d of June, found him in my garden. I addressed him in French. He answered me in English. He said he wanted employment. I asked him what he could do ? he replied, "Most anything." Said he understood gardening. I told him I had plenty of work in the garden. He staid fifteen days, I frequently conversed with him. He gave me a narrative of himself. Said he was with a wine merchant, a countryman of his, in Philadelphia. Said he left him because he was a turbulent, passionate and fretful man. Said he could find no employment at New York ; had left his trunk there because he had no means of bringing it. Said it contained clothing. He examined my grape vine, and gave it its name ; pruned it ; it did better than it had done before. He asked me many questions respecting the productions of this country, and gave me particular descriptions of the productions of his country. He manifested such a revengeful spirit on the the slightest provocation, that my workmen became alarmed. I became frightened from the representations of my workmen. I made applications to the select men. Mr. Tweedy notified him to leave my house. Rabello came in, threw the hat which I had given him on the table ; and said, "I understand that your humanity is at an end," and went off in a great rage. No want of intellect ; very intelligent ;

saw no appearance of insanity. I observed particularly, because I had heard he was crazy. Seemed to be cheerful, did not seek society; seemed bent on study. Said he met with many abrupt people who disgusted him. Did not say he was disgusted everywhere he went. I received him into my family from motives of pity; he was treated kindly; he had evidently seen good society; had the appearance of being a polished man.

Dr. Noah Dyer.—Reside in Trumbull. Saw Rabello in the burying ground, Aug. 1834. A number of young persons were around him asking questions. Among other questions, why he went into the burying ground, he said, because it was a public ground, and he should not be so likely to be disturbed there. He was asked for a book he had under his arm; it proved to be a Portuguese grammar. On one of the blank leaves were verses written. Said he wrote them. He was asked if he had been in love? He looked up, smiled, and shook his head. Next day, saw him. I was eating an apple, and offered him one. He remarked, we had fair apples in this country. Said apples in his country were small. Said chestnut trees and chestnuts were larger there than here; cherries also. The Monday after, at Mr. Seely's, conversed with him about his coming to this country, about his health and circumstances. He manifested an anxiety to get employment. Said he last came from Pequonnock; that the work there was too laborious in some places; not treated well in others. I directed him to Mr. Fairchild. In my intercourse with him, I saw nothing indicating insanity. I thought his eye indicated a malicious disposition, and advised my neighbors to say but little to him.

Cross examination. I made no examination in relation to monomania. What he said, was principally drawn out by interrogations. Think he did not look then as now; he now appears more gloomy and desponding.

Isaac Thorp, Weston.—Rabello came from Mr. Hall's to my house. Said he found the way without difficulty or

inquiry. Whatever he was set to doing, he did it cheerfully, and did it well. After two or three weeks, he showed more indifference about labor; gave me short and cross answers when asked to work. Esq. Sanford, a selectman, came to see him, and after talking with him about half an hour, made known his business; told him he had better go to Hartford where they took care of such folks. He immediately flew in a passion, and said, "Who sent you here? What business have you with me?" I told him we had people appointed in every town to take care of the poor, and that Esq. Sanford was one of them. He then cooled down. A constable came and warned him out of town. I then gave him his choice, to stay or go. He chose to stay. We went to work at stone. I heard a noise, turned round, and saw Rabello in the act of throwing a stone at one of the men. I told him not to throw it. He asked if I brought him there to be insulted? and threw the stone with violence, and hit the man's hat; picked up another, but laid it down, and said, "I'll lay his head open with an axe." He ran to the cart, took an axe; I interfered, and he came at me with the axe raised. When he came within about five feet of me, I raised the crow-bar, and told him if he stirred another step, I would kill him. He stepped back, laid down his axe, and swore terribly. I told him then he must quit. I inquired the cause of this broil. The man said that, in rolling a stone, he accidentally hit Rabello's foot. Rabello said it was so, and he considered it a great insult, and would not bear such an insult as that. He went to the house, took his cloak and went off. He refused to go to Mrs. Burr's and get his clothes he had left there, because he said she had abused him. He appeared perfectly sane except when angry.

David Patchen, Constable of Weston.—Read a notification to Rabello when he was at Mr. Thorp's. He asked me to explain it. I did it with mildness. He flew into a passion, swore he would split my head open, seized the axe and struck at me with it. I started back, but felt the wind

caused by the motion of the axe. I resolutely told him to stop, or he would get into business. He then put down the axe, cursed our laws, stamped his feet, grated his teeth, said he could have no peace anywhere, and that our laws ground men into the dust, were worse than in the old countries. I had no suspicions of his being insane. Supposed he possessed a violent, revengeful temper.

Elisha Shelton.—Live in Huntington, two miles from Mr. Lum's. Rabello came to my house, a short time before he went to Mr. Lum's. Wanted employment, was urgent, said he must perish if he did not get a place. I offered him money; he did not care about taking it. His object was to get a place. He finally took twenty-five cents; appeared dejected. He was at my house three times in the course of the winter; conversed with as much propriety as anybody. He showed no marks of insanity, unless his melancholy was a mark. He looked cast down then as he does now.

Several other witnesses were called who testified that they had seen and conversed with Rabello and did not consider him insane. The Justices and Constables who committed him to Jail testified as follows.

Ensign Bushnell, Esq.—Rabello was brought before me on the day of the murder for examination. I discovered nothing very different from his appearance to-day. Perceived the same contraction of the lip which some call a smile. When put to plea, he said, "I did the deed, but am not guilty. I was tempted, I was insulted." The thought came into my mind, that he might be insane, though from his general appearance and answers I could discover nothing of insanity.

Alvan Brown, Esq.—Sat with Esq. Bushnell, during the examination, and agree with him in his statement. I discovered no aberration of mind.

Giles H. Tomlinson.—Was the constable who brought Rabello to jail. He gave the same account of himself that he had given to others. Said he had no friends, no home, and nothing to live for. When I told him that he would

probably be hung, he said he had "no choice." I asked him if he should have killed the boy, if he had had time to reflect? He did not make a direct answer. Said the boy insulted him the week before, and the night before. I saw nothing that appeared like insanity.

Dr. S. Fuller, Hartford.—I am superintendent of the Retreat—have been for thirteen months. It is well settled that one faculty of the mind may be deranged, while the rest are sound. One feature of insanity is, when the mind reasons from a fact not true, as if true. No evidence of sanity, that the mind is rational on all facts, except the one on which he is insane. Has been stated, that to make out insanity, it is necessary to make out *insane belief*. *Monomaniacs* will transact business well till this ground of insanity interrupts. The development of *monomania* is gradual, usually. The dominion of monomania is complete over the mind.

Monomaniacs have been guilty of the most desperate crimes. It is not strange that people should suppose a monomaniac regular. Even physicians of great experience have differed and been deceived. Should regard a man who was constantly excited by *imaginary insults*, as a dangerous man.

Examined Rabello particularly. His head is formed like many incurables in the Retreat. Dr. Plumb stepped on his toes; his pulse was 120 before; rose immediately 40 a minute. His face flushed immediately. His health is poor. The insane idea is, that all his friends are enemies, and this hostility is shown by stepping on his toes, mocking him, &c. Discovered nothing artful in his conduct. Should have thought him insane if he had been brought to the Retreat.

Rabello said that in South America, his friends were all alienated against him: that he was put in the hospital; and all his friends in Madeira turned against him.

Dr. A. Brigham, Hartford.—Insanity, or derangement of mind, is generally considered a physical disease, a disease of the brain, or nervous system; though it may be pro-

duced by a moral cause, still a person never becomes insane, until the brain becomes disordered.

The disease may be particular or general, i. e. all or only a part of the faculties of the mind may be deranged, and very frequently the *moral faculties* become deranged, while the intellectual are not at all. Thus we often see people deranged as regards their *affections* and *passions*, while their intellectual powers remain good, and will converse correctly, and answer correctly *all* questions not relating to the one particular subject that excites them to madness. Such people are able to transact business correctly, and by those intimately acquainted with them are considered merely eccentric for years, until their insanity on some particular excitement breaks out in violent conduct. I have seen many such cases, and works on insanity abound with them; cases in which the *moral faculties are deranged*, while the intellectual are not. The works of Pinel and Prichard contain many such, where individuals appeared, on careful examination, to be perfectly sane on every subject but *one*.

Such insane people are often dejected and melancholy, and carry in their countenances an appearance of sadness and gloom; they take but little interest in those things that interest others, and yet will exhibit no derangement of the intellect; but on some slight provocation, or an *imagined* one, will become violently passionate, and resort to the most awful and cruel method of revenge, and show a total want of self-control. Under such excitement or burst of fury, if they commit great crimes, they never consider themselves as criminal, but justify their conduct by some trivial argument. Medical books abound with such cases; especially the writers on insanity, of late years, have collected many such; so that now it is well established, that there is a kind of insanity (and not a very uncommon kind) in which the moral faculties, (the feelings and passions) are deranged, while the intellectual are not at all.

The case of Rabello is an embarrassing one, in consequence of our not knowing anything of his early history

since he has been in this country. His dejected looks, his inattention to his own welfare, his taciturnity, his not being induced to take any interest in anything, his living as it were without hopes or wishes, or without any object in view, his strange and ungovernable fury on very slight provocation, or without any, his simplicity and artlessness, *the murder itself*, and his conduct since, his present unconcerned manner, induce me to believe, (and I am well established in the opinion,) that he is insane, and was so when he killed the boy.

Dr. L. Ticknor, Salisbury.—Cannot satisfy myself that he is insane.

Dr. J. B. Beckwith, Litchfield.—Concurred with physicians generally as to the causes and symptoms of insanity. May be general or partial, and be the effect of physical or moral causes, or both combined. Think the prisoner gives evidence of partial alienation of mind. Has had several interviews with him. Has been his attending physician since his committal. Dr. B. was requested to state his general appearance and conduct during his confinement.

He has found him gloomy, misanthropic, or vacant; evincing a strong aversion to company, conversation, and a disregard to the comforts of life within his power. His posture of body is peculiar; his head usually reclining against a rock, his eyes half closed and turned toward the wall; seldom raising them except when highly exasperated, when he thinks himself insulted. He has paroxysms of increased irritability, when he refuses to answer any interrogatories from any person. He never asks questions to his knowledge; nor manifests any curiosity on any subject. When questioned, he replies reluctantly, and usually in monosyllables. His answers do not indicate much intellectual strength. Are perfectly simple and artless, and consistent with his general character and deportment. The manner in which he regards his friends, is in the same character. He represents them as perfectly hostile to him, and they changed their characters *all at once*, while he was absent at

Rio Janeiro; that they mocked and insulted him; called him crazy when he was not; appointed a person to watch him; and persecuted him in every way; and rather than submit to such treatment he abandoned the country. But he complains that he finds the same treatment in this country in every place where he has been, until he committed the homicide at New Preston. He persists in his innocence of murder, although he says he committed the deed for which he is arraigned; but says no one acting under the provocation he did, was guilty of crime. He seems perfectly indifferent to his fate, and refuses in private any assistance from counsel. He says, "If they hang him it is well—if not, well." Was present yesterday when Dr. Plumb placed his foot upon Rabello's, both sitting down; and was told that it was not done to insult him; he said that he did not blame the Doctor so much as those who appointed him to do it. His pulse rose 30 beats in a minute; 120 to 150 in a minute under the excitement. His pulse is very feeble, frequent, and his general health bad.

Now, his assertions cannot be received as evidence in his behalf; yet from his character for veracity, and what he regards to be truth, combined with his actions, which are said by an ancient writer on jurisprudence, to "speak louder than words"—his perfect indifference to his fate—his disregard to the comforts of life—his obstinate silence and great irritability, which is increased by paroxysms—his inveterate hatred to his friends—and the suspicion and hostility with which he regards the whole human family, and many other peculiarities, (either of which would not be evidence in itself,) yet the whole combination of circumstances furnish evidence to my mind of some partial aberration of mind, and are consistent with this supposition, and inconsistent and irrational with a sound state of mind.

Several other Physicians testified in a similar manner.

The examination of witnesses having closed, George C. Woodruff, Esq. first addressed the jury on the part of the prosecution. He was followed by O. S. Seymour and Tru-

man Smith, Esqrs. on the part of the defence. Leman Church, Esq. State's Attorney, made the concluding argument. Judge Williams then charged the jury, recapitulating the principal parts of the testimony, and gave to the jury his opinion on the points of law necessary to be understood. The jury then took the case into consideration, and the next morning returned a verdict of Not Guilty; and that their verdict was founded upon their belief of the *insanity* of the prisoner. The court then ordered the prisoner to be confined in the common jail, until provision could be made to prevent him from doing further mischief.

Soon after the trial one of the counsel for Rabello received the following letter from the Portuguese Consul, dated

New York, 1st. Sept. 1835.

O. S. SEYMOUR, Esq. Litchfield; Conn.

SIR—Your letter was duly received, and I feel very much indebted to you for the information. Although I had already seen a statement in the newspapers, I could not think who this Rabello was, but on inquiring of Mr. Stoughton of Madeira, at present in this city, he informed me that *Agostinho Rabello* had been a clerk in his house at Madeira. He left afterwards for Brazil, and returned to Madeira a little deranged. He then thought of coming to America. His parents got some money and other things ready for him, but he would not accept of them. He arrived in Philadelphia, and called on Messrs. Noronha & Abreu, (natives of Madeira,) and requested them to employ him as a clerk; and although these gentlemen knew him to be a little deranged when he left Madeira, they however took him in their office, thinking he had recovered; but one day, Mr. Noronha came in the office, and asked him if anybody had called, when Rabello told him he would break his head if he asked him any such questions. Mr. Noronha immediately saw that he was deranged, and turned him out. I saw him since in N. Y. He is rather short, and writes a good hand. He has never written to his parents, and Mr. Stough-

ton says they desired him to inform them what had become of him, as they had never heard of him since he left.

His parents are respectable; but as they are poor, I do not think they could do much for him. I will, however, write them the first opportunity, and inform them of all that has happened. I would at the same time like to inform them what would be the expense in some Lunatic Asylum where he might be sent to, as I fear his parents would not like to have him return in such a state of derangement; and it would be attended with a great deal of expense, which they can not afford. I will enclose them a copy of your letter, so that they may be better able to judge of the case, and will inform you as soon as I hear from Madeira.

I remain, Sir, yours respectfully,

PAULO J. FIGUERA,

Consular Agent of Portugal.

P. S. This unfortunate man is still living in the Connecticut State Prison, where he was sent by a special Act of the Legislature, not as a criminal but for safe-keeping. He has been almost constantly confined in a small cell, and much of the time a raving maniac. He ought to be placed in a Lunatic Asylum.—*Ed. Jour. of Insanity.*

ARTICLE VI.

REMARKABLE CASE OF MENTAL ALIENATION.

By W. T. WRAGG, M. D.

JOE, a young negro of about 20 years of age, possessing an average degree of intelligence, and having enjoyed good health up to the time when he was attacked with the illness which threw him into the remarkable condition in which I found him, resided on a plantation in the neighborhood of

Charleston. His occupations were such as are common to persons in his situation ; laboring in the cultivation of the soil. He was taken ill about the latter part of July, 1837, probably with fever of a bilious type. For about a fortnight he remained on the plantation, receiving such attention as the neighborhood afforded. It does not appear that he suffered from neglect, but it seemed evident that his case had not been judiciously treated. A report of his death reached his master, who resided in Charleston, and was the first intimation he had that the boy was really seriously ill. This report caused a careful inquiry to be made into his real condition, when it was found that although he was not dead, yet his case was of so serious a character as to call for most careful attention. He was therefore brought to town. I saw him for the first time on Tuesday, 8th August, 1837, and found him laboring under violent delirium and a great deal of muscular irritability. I could obtain no satisfactory account of the manner in which the attack commenced, or of the nature and progress of the disease ; except that he had had fever. His imagination, a faculty which with him, had doubtless never, in his hours of health, been called into action, was awakened. He became impressed with the idea that he was dead. This, no doubt, originated from the report of his death, which had been current, and which had probably been spoken of in his presence.

Upon a mind laboring under so much excitement, and in which the exaggerations of timid and ignorant friends could find no counterpoise in the wholesome restraints of education, such an idea was well calculated to produce a deep impression, and accordingly the patient was hurried away in the most extravagant language and conduct. From his false ground he drew inferences perfectly secutive, and which failed to be rational, only because they started from unsound premises. He said, that being dead, his flesh would soon begin to rot and drop from his bones ; remonstrated at being kept so long unburied ; earnestly demanded that his grave clothes should be prepared and put upon him ; and

that he be laid out in the usual form. He looked anxiously for the company to assemble which was to follow his body to the grave, and would chaunt in touching language a final adieu to his mother. The tune he selected was solemn, such as he was used to hear under similar circumstances. He would pick and pull at his flesh, while he called on the bystanders to look at him closely, and satisfy themselves that he really was dead.

In the midst of these interesting and deeply touching scenes, he would sometimes burst suddenly into a fit of hearty laughter, and then as suddenly, as if rebuked by his conscience for the indecent levity of such conduct in one who was already an inhabitant of another world, he would check his mirth. And then, his countenance would be marked in every feature with an expression of the deepest solemnity, he would address himself earnestly to some object in the room, as though he were in the presence of the Almighty, and deeply awed by his majesty; he would then in the most earnest and appropriate language, give expression to his feelings of reverence for the Great Being in whose presence he stood; and with the attitude and accent of prayer, acknowledge his power to save or to destroy. Fully impressed with the idea that he was indeed dead, and a dweller amongst immortal spirits in that world which his religious instruction had taught him to believe would receive his soul, when death had released it from its fleshy tenement; his countenance and his every action took a serious, a sublime expression from the thought, and his whole deportment was such as could not fail to touch and awe all who saw him. He would remain for some time enveloped in this rhapsody. He heard nothing of what passed near him, and saw only the majestic creation of his imagination, and lived only in regions which his mental infirmity had painted, till they seemed to him those of another and brighter world.

Gradually, after a day or two, his delirium took a character of gayety. His countenance wore a pleasant smile, and a vein of humor marked his conversation. But if op-

posed, he would resist forcibly; making powerful muscular efforts, and once he inflicted a severe blow on one of the bystanders. He would sing a tune with perfect accuracy, adapting to it, as he proceeded, words suggested by what was passing around him. When questioned, he would chaunt his answer with perfect correctness, thus conveying all the required information concerning his feelings, his wishes and his thoughts. His gestures were easy and appropriate, nor could he be restrained from making them, by any mechanical opposition placed in his way; for there was a rigid and unyielding energy in his muscular contractions, that overpowered all resistance, like the delirious and convulsive movements of a patient laboring under phrenitis. Restraint made him violent; but if he succeeded in releasing himself, or the restraint was removed, upon the instant a mild and gentle smile threw its bland expression over his face, and he became obedient to a single word, if uttered in a gentle tone. He knew his mother, and always spoke to her with kindness.

This musical mania continued for two days. About the third day he ceased singing, and the most remarkable peculiarity that his delirium had yet assumed now presented itself. He spoke in rhyme! As he had before made all his answers to the questions put to him, and his voluntary remarks in a measured and musical tone, so did he now communicate his thoughts in well selected rhymes. He would sometimes rhyme repeatedly on the same word. Again, his transitions would be rapidly made from one sound to another, of an entirely different kind. At all times the words were so selected as to make the most perfect rhyme. And he displayed a degree of ingenuity in collecting and bringing into use, in the most opposite manner, a large number of similarly sounding words, which would have appeared astonishing even in one who had been rendered familiar, by education and habit, with language in all its perfections. But it must be remembered that this individual was a slave, perfectly uneducated, and showing no farther knowledge of

language than was sufficient for expressing his few and simple wants. Negroes have some quickness in catching musical sounds, and in repeating simple tunes by air; hence, I was not surprised to hear him sing; though the quickness with which he adapted his answers and remarks to the tune he was singing, was indeed remarkable. But the ease with which he rhymed was truly astonishing.

The medical history and treatment of the case were as follows:

The patient had been long suffering for want of rest, and for several nights continued to be sleepless. He had well marked exacerbations towards night, when his pulse, which throughout the day would continue nearly at a healthy standard became quick, small and irritable. During the exacerbations, he paid no attention to what was said to him, unless spoken to earnestly. He would then listen attentively, and would readily promise obedience to any directions; and he always kept his word.

After repeated bleeding, both general and local, blistering, purging, hot pedeluvia with mustard, and other means of depletion and derivation, his madness became more calm, but he never said anything rational: only making in various ways a few half intelligible complaints of the blister, which had been put on his head. His rest returned to him. He would sleep well at night, and frequently had refreshing naps through the day. His appetite became good, so that he eat heartily and with relish.

On the 17th of August, nine days after I first saw him when the depletory revulsive measures mentioned, had removed all symptoms of excitement except the delirium, a seaton was put in the back of the neck. He was very much alarmed at the idea of the operation, and the sight of the knife and other preparations caused him to shudder, and it was evident he suffered as much mental as bodily pain. But when assured that the operation would benefit him and that it was only done for his own good, he became calm, and expressed himself thankful.

The seaton remained till Saturday, the 14th October, fifty-eight days from the time of its insertion. The delirium abated evidently and steadily, from the time that suppuration was so established. He soon began to walk about the room, then in the street near his residence, and gradually extending his promenade, came to see me at my office and report on his condition. When the seaton was removed, his intellect was perfectly clear and his physical health completely restored. No inconvenience resulted from the drying up of the suppuration, and he returned to his occupation in perfectly restored health.—*Southern Journal of Medicine and Pharmacy, May, 1846.*

ARTICLE VII.

CASE OF MONOMANIA,

Arising out of the Trial of Madame Lafarge. Translated from the French. By H. S. BELCONBE, M. D., Membre de L'Institute Historique a Paris, Senior Physician to the County Hospital, and Physician to the Retreat, York.

M. Esquirol has expressed an opinion that it was possible to write the state of society at any given period, from the mental hallucinations then prevailing. There seems to be no doubt, that during the "proces" or trial of Lafarge's wife for his destruction, through the covered means of arsenic, there occurred in France many cases of mental alienation, all referring to this impression. The subjoined history, drawn up by M. le docteur Jossat, Membre de l'Institut Historique, 3sieme, Classe, he considers less an argument in favor of Esquirol's opinion, than as an additional fact which may strengthen the solution of the problem of

madness, relatively to its seat, to its nature, to its varied complications, and perhaps to its treatment.

Lepers was born at Lille: his family was easy in circumstances, though not rich, and he received a proportionate education. He was early remarked by his habits of order and economy, by a strict sense of rectitude, yet by an obstinacy of opinion that would never allow himself to be in the wrong. His form was athletic, his temperament musculo-sanguineous, (musculo-sanguin,) the head a type of the antique statuary,—the head that gives the idea of dignity and benevolence. Lepers in the course of time, and under the influence of circumstances became a cooper, and prospering in his business, he married a German, to whom he was much attached, but whose disposition was that of a narrow mind, (taquin,) and far from according with his own.

Having fixed his residence at Port Mahon, Paris, in a prosperous business, much esteemed, in good credit, sought after from his skill, his probity, and his punctuality, nothing appeared likely to disturb the serenity of his life, which he not only felt, but endeavoured to share with his friends.

At this period came on the celebrated "proces" of Lafarge. Lepers became strongly interested in it, and at once denounced the wife. Madame Lepers took the other side. Their discussions, calm at first, became, like most arguments, angry and abusive, and Lepers, formerly so difficultly provoked, was soon irritated, animated, and violently excited, whenever he found he could not convince. At length "Le drama de Glandiers" terminated, and the jury gave a verdict according to Lepers' preconceived opinion. His wife nevertheless, and without any respect to judge or jury, maintains hers. The exasperation of Lepers is at its acme; suddenly he stops, crosses his arms, and with a piercing look upon his wife, exclaims, "*If indeed you could do this!*"

On the morrow Lepers complained of exceeding pain in all his limbs, and of a severe colic; he spoke of his sufferings without stating any reason for them. He repaired to a

chemist to analyse his "urine," and the reply was, "there was nothing to justify any suspicion;" he nevertheless considered himself poisoned, and from that moment it became the fixed opinion of his mind. Hitherto of a reserved habit, that was abandoned, and he declared everywhere he was poisoned, and poisoned by his wife.

The narrative proceeds:—M. de Jossat says, "I go back to the day when he first came to consult me on his case; his broken-down suffering aspect, his haggard features, his trembling limbs, affected me much. He at once commenced relating the history of his miseries:—The arsenic was put into his food with a skill that defied the most vigilant observation. The criminal wife pursued her intention with the certainty of result, which Lepers related with fascinating eloquence. The recital lasted above an hour, without my being able to suspect that my relator was mad. The perfect appearance of truth in the details, their admirable union, the air of conviction that marked his words, the bodily tortures so emphatically expressed, and above all that beautiful physiognomy he possessed,—those who knew him will well understand me,—all contribute to fascinate me. I believed entirely in his statement, I told him so, in a manner which gained his entire confidence, and which was never withdrawn. An appointment was made for the next day.

"In the meantime I saw his wife, his friends, and neighbors. My first impressions were disabused, and on the morrow, without ceasing apparently to think with him, I prescribed what I considered necessary to neutralize the effects of the poison already absorbed. I advised him to take his repasts from home; this counsel was followed, and Lepers recovered his ordinary health and gaiety. In a few weeks, however, he returned to me, complaining of all his former evils. Now his wife powdered over the bed-clothes, the linen, his body garments, with arsenic; he left his bed, slept alone, kept one room to himself, and for a time, by these means, was comfortable; but in a fortnight the whole assemblage of evils reappeared. Now his wife had intro-

duced the impalpable powder through the floor of his apartment, and the air he breathed was saturated with the arsenic."

Under such circumstances it became necessary to remove him, and with much address he was placed at Charenton. For a month of his continuance there he was resigned, polite to all, never making the slightest complaint; his conversation was eagerly sought for by the medical attendants, and it began to be disputed whether he was a fit subject for such a hospital. At that time his wife, with whom he was on good terms, notwithstanding the crimes with which he reproached her, came to see him. After the immediate interview, "I do not like," he said, "to converse with you among such a set of people; ask permission for us to take a walk out of the establishment." The confidence in Lepers was so great, that the permission was easily granted, but no sooner had he touched the threshold of the gate, than leaving his wife, he started off, and hardly stopped till he arrived at Lille, in Flanders. There his family, who had never credited his insanity, received him as a victim of bad proceedings, and of the cupidity of his wife.

To her he now wrote a letter, a model of its kind, relating to her his grievances in detail, (one by one,) and ending by an offer of pardon. He followed this up by returning to Paris. His return to his domicile was accompanied by scenes of sentimental and conjugal effusion, by a frankness sufficient to deceive even great sagacity, and for eight days the mutual happiness appeared to be complete. One fine evening, after an agreeable repast, the couple walked in their court-yard for the pleasure of breathing the fresh air; observing his wife yawn, Lepers said her digestion was bad, and would be all the better for a glass of Kirschen; he immediately went for it, and returned with a bottle, but it was of Geneva. Madame Lepers, a German, remarked that she liked only the liquor of her country. The dreadful idea shot like lightning through his brain, that she refused it because it was poisoned. To seize a mallet, to strike her

several blows upon the head, so as to lay her dead at his feet, was but the work of a moment. Before any help could be called, he reentered his house, barricadoed the door, ran up stairs, and with a razor, cut his throat, so as nearly to divide the trachea. Finding death not at hand, he stabbed himself frequently in the region of the heart, and with what power he had left, beat the left temporal region with a mallet, and so passed the night bathed in blood. The spectacle that Lepers offered on the morning when discovered passes any power of description. He yet lived, and advice being called in, and every proper attention paid, in four weeks he was cured. He was placed in the Asylum of M. Pinel, until the ends of justice could be determined. Twice, notwithstanding the strictest vigilance, he contrived to escape; and, finally, he was placed at the Bicetre, where, adds M. Jossat, "he expired almost at the same time that I conclude the history of his derangement."

M. Jossat concludes his paper with the subjoined reflections:—"No instance of mental alienation had been known to occur in the family of Lepers; an hereditary taint as the cause, is therefore at once dismissed. Up to the hour when the idea of being poisoned became fixed in his mind, he was noted for his good sense, for the integrity of his heart, and for the clearness of his intellect; even when this suspicion had taken the character of monomania his intelligence upon all other matters was such, that his whole family refused to credit the notion of insanity, and I myself after our first interview, remained for many hours under the same conviction. M. Fergus, the person appointed to examine him, declined for a long time to insert in his report any reference to a disordered state of mind, so careful was Lepers, during all his interviews, not to give any occasion for such suspicion. In the course of his business, he had never said or done anything which could induce any presumption of an unsound mind. Lepers, with a multitude of others, became interested in the process against Madame Lafarge. His judgment was soon satisfied that she was guilty. His wife

opposed this opinion, and their arguments were renewed daily; at length the jury confirmed his previously-drawn conclusion. Now, at least, it must be acknowledged he was right. No! Madame Lepers persists in spite of all legal conviction. Then comes the feeling, that there must be some deeper cause for this obstinacy—some hateful attempt against his own life, with probable impunity in executing it. This idea, conceived in one moment, becomes the predominant passion of his life, and during its short remainder, his only thoughts are how to escape from this infliction.

"Again, as if Lepers were destined to combine in some way the mysteries of the physical power, with the moral condition of man, he survived wounds, any one of which would have destroyed one of less vigorous organization than his. He not only survived, but was cured in twenty-five days, and his escapes from Chaillot, the place of his detention, showed wonderful combinations of ingenuity and self possession.

"Can phrenology give any assistance in the solution of this singular case? Is the localization of organs to be insisted upon, when Leper's rationality is sound upon every subject but one; that also hardly perceptible, except at times manifesting itself, yet constantly and painfully tracing consequences deduced from a supposed and imaginary fact, (*d'un fait sans fondement?*) Can the principle be admitted, that the aberration of a faculty will be always found accompanied with the lesion of a corresponding *material* organ, when Lepers is found now drooping, now resuming his fatal suspicion, at the same time in all other relations of life pursuing the conduct of an upright and skilful artizan.

"The human mind, capable of solving so many problems, is it always to find in itself, one that is insolvable."

There are many more "reflexions," *tres Francaises*, but I agree with M. Jossat, that they would be only tedious to my readers.—*Provincial Med. & Surg. Journal.*

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ARTICLE VIII.

CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH-DAY OF PINEL,

At the State Lunatic Asylum, Utica, N. Y., April 11, 1846.

The following account of this interesting celebration, we copy from the Utica Daily Gazette.

A UNIQUE AND PLEASING EXHIBITION.—The 101st Anniversary of the birth-day of the illustrious PINEL, the distinguished philanthropist, and the great author of the modern improved system for the treatment and cure of the insane, was celebrated on Saturday last, in the chapel of the State Lunatic Asylum in this city, by the inmates and patients of that noble and humane institution, in a most appropriate and impressive manner. It was got up at their own suggestion, with the approbation of Dr. Brigham, to manifest their deep sense of reverence for the character and memory of that great friend of humanity, and their gratitude for the benefit which they, with thousands of others in like circumstances, had received from the results of his labors of love in that great cause.

The exercises were introduced by the singing of the choir of the institution, in excellent style, the following hymn, written by the request of a committee of the inmates for the occasion, by Judge BACON of this city :

"THE MEMORY OF THE JUST IS BLESSED."

Long, long had ceased the heart of man
To feel a brother's woes,
When in the holy work of love
The God-like PINEL rose.

From fettered limbs, imprisoned hearts
He struck the galling chain ;
And in the image of his God
The maniac rose again.

Sacred the memory of the just !
Love's labors long shall live ;
This grateful tribute which we pay,
With fervent hearts we give.

Forever cherished be that name
In the lorn sufferer's breast,
And the sweet fragrance of his works
By rescued outcasts blest !

And when beyond this dusky vale
The unfettered spirit flies,
Such kindred spirits may we greet
Beneath unclouded skies !

After a prayer by the Reverend Chaplain of the institution, an exceedingly eloquent and impressive eulogium on the character of PINEL, embracing a brief sketch of his life, labors and achievements in the reformatory work of treating the insane, by abolishing the old system of constraint and severity which had long been practised, and substituting for it gentle and consolatory influences, kind treatment and moral suasion, was pronounced in an admirable style of elocution, by A. G. S. MALTBIE, one of the patients of the institution ; and which we should be gratified to see published through some appropriate channel, devoted to the cause which gave birth to this happy exemplification of its benign influences and bright emanations.

The following fine ode, by Mrs. Sigourney, with others, some of their own composition, of which we have not copies, were feelingly recited by ladies, patients and inmates of the institution.

Good and great ! we hail thy name,
Not for deeds of warlike fame,
Not for laurels proudly worn,
Steep'd in wars, and stain'd in gore,
But for victories nobler far,
Than the trophied spoils of war.

Thou, more truly brave than they,
Who their fellow-beings slay,
Nobly dar'dst to venture where,
In the regions of despair,

Fearful shapes, and horrors were ;
Broke the chains of ancient night,
Pour'd on groping science light,
And the song of angels gave,
For the discords of the grave.

Whereso'er, to reason blind,
Moans the sick, imprison'd mind,
Whereso'er, from misery's reign
Springs to health and peace again,
Set by hallow'd science free,
There, Pinel, thy praise shall be.

So, thy name shall never die,
And beneath this western sky,
In the country of the free,
Grateful hearts remember thee,
And on this, thy natal day,
Wake for thee, the votive lay,
Who in mercy's cause so brave
Didst the lost and hopeless save.

L. H. S.

The chapel was tastefully and appropriately decorated with flags, bearing the stripes and stars of the United States, and the tri-colored emblems of the French nation ; with engraved portraits of Pinel, and Esquirol, another distinguished French reformer of asylums for the insane.

Amongst many answers which had been received by the committee from distinguished gentlemen of other like institutions, who had been invited to give their attendance on the occasion, very eloquent and interesting letters were read from Dr. Woodward, superintendent of the Worcester Asylum for the Insane ; Dr. Allen, of that of Kentucky ; Dr. Kirkbride, of that of Pennsylvania ; Dr. Awl, of that of Ohio ; Dr. McDonald, late of that of Bloomingdale ; Dr. Ray, of that of Maine ; and Rev. H. Gallaudet, Chaplain of the Retreat for the Insane at Hartford, Ct.

This was in the whole a unique and interesting exhibition, in which the large assemblage of the inmates of the institution, with their becoming behavior, and engaged interest in and attention to the whole course of the exercises, formed

by no means the least pleasing part of the performances. So that, as was observed at the time by one who witnessed them, a stranger unacquainted with the audience would be at a loss to designate which portion of it consisted of occasional visitors, and which of permanent inmates of the house.

X.

The following are some of the Letters received from Superintendents of institutions for the Insane in reply to letters of invitations sent to them by a committee appointed for that purpose.

Portland, 30th March, 1846.

GENTLEMEN—Your kind invitation to join with you in celebrating the forthcoming anniversary of the birth-day of Pinel, I am obliged to decline, much to my regret, by circumstances beyond my control. It would gratify me to see an institution which enjoys an enviable celebrity in our country, as well as to contribute my humble share of respect to the memory of one of the noblest benefactors of our race. While in Paris, during the last summer, I visited the Hospitals of the Bicetre and Salpetriere with feelings of unusual interest, as being the scenes of his immortal labors.

To me, as probably they would to any one else engaged in similar pursuits, these establishments were a kind of Classic ground; for although the appearance of comfort and good order which they presented, the neatness and propriety of all their arrangements, their quaint and venerable architecture, are well calculated to arrest and absorb the attention; yet the idea that those Courts were traversed by Pinel, and those galleries witnessed his noble experiment of liberating the maniac from his chains, and restoring him to all the liberty and privileges compatible with his own welfare, was frequently recurring to my mind. That, gentlemen, was a great and glorious achievement. At a time when the terrors of the revolution almost prevented men from thinking their own thoughts, and the announcement of a striking and original idea, remote as possible from political subjects,

subjected a person to the suspicion of being an Aristocrat, which was equivalent to high treason, this great and good man conceived and carried through one of the most memorable reforms in the cause of humanity. To understand the full merit of his undertaking, we must bear in mind that it was a daring innovation upon all former practice, that its success was not very likely to be honored or noticed in that stormy period, and that its failure would have been perilous to his own safety. Connected with this event, a beautiful and touching incident has been related by his son. One of the patients whom he liberated from chains he had worn for years, shortly after recovered his reason and became an attached friend and servant. One night during the reign of terror, *Pinel* was arrested in the street by an excited mob, who were hurrying him off to the lantern, when this man boldly came up, and by proclaiming his services and merits, rescued him from destruction.

From you, gentlemen, who have experienced the comforts of a modern Asylum for the Insane, the proposed festival will come with peculiar appropriateness; for it is owing to his labors in a great measure, that while stricken down with the heaviest of afflictions, you have enjoyed every possible comfort, instead of being surrounded by unkind or unsympathizing guardians, and your sufferings aggravated by every species of painful impression. Since I can not be with you, allow me to express my interest in the occasion by offering the following sentiment:

The Superintendents of the American Asylums—while acknowledging the value of *Pinel's* labors, let them imitate the example of his noble self-sacrifices, of his untiring devotion to duty, of his pure and lofty motives.

With much respect, I am yours, &c.,

I. RAY.

TO A. G. S. MALTBIE, D. A. SHAW, JAMES BAKER, GEO. R. WALKER, BENJ. INGRAHAM, WM. H. COFFIN, *Committee State Lunatic Asylum, Utica, N. Y.*

State Lunatic Hospital, Worcester, March 30, 1846.

GENTLEMEN—I received your polite invitation to be present at the celebration of the birth day of the illustrious Pinel at Utica, and should be happy to be present on so interesting an occasion. I fear, however, that my duties here will interfere and prevent. The occasion is one deeply interesting to you, and to humanity.

That you may fully realize all anticipated enjoyment, is the sincere desire of my heart.

Yours very respectfully,

S. B. WOODWARD.

Sanford Hall, March 7th, 1846.

GENTLEMEN—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23 ult., inviting me to attend the celebration "of the birth-day of the illustrious Pinel." I most heartily thank you for this mark of respect and attention, and much regret that my professional engagements will not permit me to be present.

The commemoration of Pinel's natal day is a happy thought, and I do not doubt its utility to all who are now participating in the benefits which have resulted from his useful life; to patient as well as to physician.

If Pinel had not lived and transmitted to us the fruits of his labors and had not given us his no less illustrious pupil Esquirol to furnish and illustrate what he began, it is not difficult to imagine in what a degree of darkness we should still be groping. There has been a decided progress in that branch of medicine which relates to the investigation and treatment of insanity, and for its first impulse we are more indebted to him whose birth you are about to celebrate than to any other name.

With the most cordial sympathy in your proceedings and with sentiments of respect.

I am Gentlemen, your obed't. Serv't.

JAS. MACDONALD.

Ohio Lunatic Asylum, April 1st, 1846.

GENTLEMEN—Your very kind favor of the 23d of March, inviting me to join the patients of the N. Y. State Hospital in "celebrating the birth-day of the illustrious Pinel, on the 11th of April next," is duly and thankfully received.

It is but a short time since I obtained a very fine likeness of that great and good man from the city of Paris, which I have placed upon my writing desk whilst I may be engaged in this reply to your letter. And the more I look upon his noble brow, and the longer I reflect upon his heroic efforts and elevated name, the greater is my desire to unite in this celebration. But time and circumstances do not allow me this pleasure, I therefore hasten to acknowledge the favor and with my apology, wish you a happy and interesting season—a day to be remembered, and an occasion for useful reflection.

Very truly and respectfully,

WILLIAM M. AWL.

N. B. A number of our patients have volunteered to go, and some are willing to start immediately, but a variety of considerations seem to prevent us all from attending to the matter at this time. You will therefore please to excuse us, but do not forget any of us at the feast.

[From the Chaplain of the Rétreat for the Insane, Hartford, Ct.]

Hartford, April 2d, 1846.

GENTLEMEN—You do me much honor in inviting me to join you in celebrating the birth-day of the distinguished Pinel, one whose memory ought indeed to be cherished by all who feel for the insane.

I should enjoy great satisfaction in being with you, that in connection with the interest of the occasion, I might have the privilege of seeing your noble institution in operation, and of having some social and improving intercourse once more, with my friend who fills so ably the situation of Superintendent, and whom I beg to accept of my sincere

thanks for the kind invitation which he appended to yours, but engagements and circumstances which I can not control, present an insuperable obstacle in the way.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours very respectfully,

T. H. GALLAUDET.

Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, March 28, 1846.

GENTLEMEN—Your kind invitation for me to unite with you in “celebrating the birth-day of the illustrious Pinel,” has been received, and while I regret that my present engagements prevent my leaving home, I can assure you that no one more fully appreciates the labors of the distinguished man to whom you refer, and whose name will ever be known to France, nor those of the less noted founders of the York Retreat in England, all of whom by a singular coincidence, without any knowledge of each other’s movements, were at the same time, in different kingdoms, engaged in the same noble work of discarding time honored prejudices and abuses, and from actual practice, giving to the world a code of principles for the moral treatment of Insanity, which even now can hardly be improved. Too much honor can scarcely be given to such men, who are among the true benefactors of their race, and it is far more just for an enlightened age to commemorate their birth-days, than those of the greatest heroes and warriors.

With the best wishes, that your celebration may be all that you can reasonably desire, for the continued prosperity of your noble institution, and for the health and happiness of all connected with it,

I am, very truly your friend,

THOMAS S. KIRKBRIDE.

Ky. Lunatic Asylum, April 3d, 1846.

GENTLEMEN—Your favor as a Committee in behalf of the patients of the “New York State Lunatic Asylum,” came to hand yesterday; and I hasten thus to acknowledge it.

I can imagine no scene which would interest me more, than the celebration to which you have so kindly invited me. The man, the time, and place, all unite to render it most interesting to every philanthropist. Like all real reformers, Pinel, with all his enlarged benevolence, scarcely dreamed of the enduring influence and ultimate effects of his God-like labors.

How would his generous spirit have glowed, his noble soul exulted with conscious rectitude and gratitude to the author of all good, could he have supposed, that ere half a century had passed away, the trophies of his mighty victories over ignorance and humanity, would be seen in every land and nation of Christendom !

To him are we all, indirectly, indebted for such noble institutions, as the one in which you are particularly interested.

It is the institutions of a country that mark in a great degree, the character of the people in whose midst they are found. None such as yours, were known among the most civilized of ancient nations. Even amongst the Jews, a nation whose "God was the Lord," the "impotent lay at the pool of Siloam," and the unhappy lunatic dwelt amidst the tombs. The temples, monuments, and triumphal arches of antiquity but tell of superstition, ignorance and blood. Of a quiet home for the unfortunate, or a peaceful retreat for the afflicted, cherished by public beneficence, no momento is found. It was left for Christian philosophy to expound, and Christian benevolence to execute the duties of man to man as well as to his God.

Guided by the light of sound philosophy and true religion, the illustrious personage, whose birth you design soon to commemorate, became at once the "deliverer of the insane," and a benefactor to his race. With giant power he severed the chains which confined, and rent the manacles which excoriated the distorted limbs of the lunatic, and taught humanity to man, and the world, that, man though bereft of the perfection of reason, was not lost to every sentiment of

the soul, nor divested of the capacity of appreciating the ministrations of humanity.

It is then highly proper and particularly appropriate, that you should lead off, in ostensibly distinguishing the anniversary of the birth-day of this great philanthropist.

Few things would afford me greater pleasure, than to be with you on the occasion. but circumstances will not allow me the indulgence. Accept however, my sincere wishes, that the day may be spent in profitable enjoyment and in future years at each return be marked by some similar distinction, evincing the perpetuation of the sacred memory of the immortal *Pinel*.

Be pleased to present my kind acknowledgements to those you represent, and accept for yourselves my sincere wishes for your health and happiness.

Very respectfully, your obed't Serv't,

JOHN R. ALLEN.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Second Meeting of the Association of Medical Superintendents of American Institutions for the Insane.

The Association of Medical Superintendents of American Institutions for the Insane, held its second meeting at Coleman's Hotel in the city of Washington, on the 11th of May, 1846. The President, Samuel B. Woodward, M. D., in the chair, and Thomas S. Kirkbride, M. D., Secretary.

PRESENT.—Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, of the Massachusetts State Lunatic Hospital at Worcester.

Dr. James Bates, of the Maine Insane Hospital at Augusta.

Dr. Andrew McFarland, of the New Hampshire State Hospital at Concord.

Dr. William H. Rockwell, of the Vermont State Hospital at Brattleboro'.

Dr. Luther V. Bell, of the McLean Asylum for the Insane at Somerville, Mass.

Dr. C. H. Stedman, of the Boston Lunatic Asylum.

Dr. N. Cutler, of the Pepperell Private Asylum, Mass.

Dr. George Chandler, of the Massachusetts State Lunatic Hospital at Worcester.

Dr. John S. Butler, of the Connecticut Retreat at Hartford.

Dr. Amariah Brigham, of the New York State Lunatic Asylum at Utica.

Dr. Pliny Earle, of the Bloomingdale Asylum, New York.

Dr. G. H. White, of the Hudson Lunatic Asylum, N. York.

Dr. James Macdonald, of the private institution, Flushing, N. Y.

Dr. Thomas S. Kirkbride, of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, Philadelphia.

Drs. Stewart and Fenerden, of the Maryland Hospital.

Dr. Wm. H. Stokes, of the Mount Hope Asylum at Baltimore.

Dr. Wm. M. Awl, of the Ohio State Hospital at Columbus.

Dr. John M. Galt, of the Eastern Asylum of Virginia at Williamsburg.

Dr. J. W. Parker, of the South Carolina Hospital at Columbia, and

Dr. Walter Telfer, of the Lunatic Hospital at Toronto, Canada.

Dr. Wm. M. Awl, of the Ohio State Hospital, was elected Vice-President of the Association, in the place of Dr. Samuel White, of Hudson, deceased.

Reports were received and read from various committees appointed at the last meeting of the Association.

On the subject of the Moral Treatment of Insanity, by Dr. Brigham; on the Medical Treatment of Insanity, by Dr. Woodward; on Restraint and Restraining Apparatus, by Dr. Bell; on the Construction of Hospitals for the Insane,

by Dr. Awl ; on the Jurisprudence of Insanity, by Dr. Ray ; on the Organization of Hospitals for the Insane, by Dr. Kirkbride ; on the Statistics of Insanity, by Dr. Earle ; on Asylums for Idiots and the Demented, by Dr. Brigham ; on Chapels and Chaplains in Insane Hospitals, by Dr. Butler ; on Post Mortem Examinations, by Dr. Kirkbride ; on Asylums for colored persons, by Dr. Galt ; on the proper provision for Insane Prisoners, by Dr. Brigham. An essay on the Construction of Hospitals for the Insane was also read by Dr. Bell, and the subjects embraced in the Reports, were minutely discussed by the members of the Association.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted :

Whereas, Since the last meeting of this Association, Dr. Samuel White, of New York, the venerable and highly respected late Vice-President of this Association has died—therefore

Resolved, That by the death of Dr. White, this Association and the Medical Profession have lost an esteemed and valued member, and the cause of humanity a useful and active friend. Particularly have the friends of the Insane reason to mourn his loss, as he had long been successfully engaged in relieving the sufferings of this afflicted class of his fellow beings, and by his labors and his writings, essentially aided in improving their condition.

Resolved, That we deeply sympathize with the surviving members of his family, and recall at the present time, the excellencies of his character, his useful precepts, and the worthy example he presented of a Gentleman, Physician, and Christian, devoted to deeds of goodness, and whose long and active life was spent in promoting the welfare of his fellow men.

Resolved, That Dr. Brigham be requested to prepare an obituary notice of the late Dr. White, to be entered upon the minutes of the Association, and to be published.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Association present a copy of these resolutions to the nearest relative of the deceased.

The following resolutions were also adopted by the Association, during its different sessions.

Resolved, That the resolution of the last meeting, relative to members of the Association, be so amended as to read as follows: That the Medical Superintendents of the various incorporated or other legally constituted institutions for the Insane, now existing on this continent, or which may be commenced prior to the next meeting, and all those who have heretofore been Medical Superintendents and members of this Association, or who may be hereafter appointed to these stations, be and they are hereby constituted members of the Association.

Resolved, That in future every regularly constituted Institution for the Insane on this continent may have one representative in this Association,—that as heretofore, this shall be the Medical Superintendent where such officer exists, but in those institutions in which there is a different organization, it may be either of the regular medical officers who may find it most convenient to attend.

Resolved, That the subjects, upon which committees were appointed at the first meeting of the Association, be continued, each in the hands of the Chairman of the respective committees, to be reported upon at the next meeting.

Resolved, That in addition, each one of the following subjects be confided to a single member of the Association who is hereby requested to report at the next meeting of the Association.

1. Treatment of Incurables. Dr. Macdonald.
2. Is there any relation between Phrenology and Insanity? Dr. Fenerden.
3. The Classification of Insanity. Dr. Earle.
4. The admission of Visitors into the halls of the patients. Dr. Ray.
5. Visits, to, and correspondence with patients by their friends. Dr. Stokes.
6. The comparative value of the different kinds of manual labor for patients, and the best means of employment in winter. Dr. Rockwell.

7. The proper number of patients for one institution. Dr. Brigham.

8. The utility of night attendants, and the propriety of not locking patient's doors during the night. Dr. Chandler.

9. The advantages and disadvantages of cottages for wealthy patients, adjacent to Hospitals for the Insane. Dr. Kirkbride.

10. The relative value of the different kinds of fuel for heating Hospitals. Dr. Bates.

11. Insanity and the condition of the Insane in the British Provinces. Dr. Telfer.

12. The Nature and Treatment of Insanity produced by the use of intoxicating liquors. Dr. Stedman.

13. The relations of Menstruation to Insanity. Dr. Fenderden.

14. Under what circumstances can the insane of the poor-classes be properly treated, with the greatest degree of economy. Dr. McFarland.

15. The effects upon the Insane of the use of Tobacco. Dr. Cutler.

16. Reading, recreation and amusements for the Insane. Dr. Galt.

17. On water-closets in the wards and yards of Hospitals for the Insane. Dr. Bell.

18. On the construction and arrangement of institutions for the Insane, in southern climates. Dr. Parker.

Resolved, That the members of this Association be urgently requested, with the concurrence of the friends of patients to make post mortem examinations, in all cases of insanity which may prove fatal while under their care, and to report the result of their observations at the next meeting of the Association.

Resolved, That each member of this Association be requested to ascertain the facts and circumstances (such as sex, age, civil state, vocation, mode and other matters susceptible of being tabularized,) of each case of suicide, occurring in his respective State, between the first day of Janu

ary and the last day of December 1847, and forward an abstract of the same, as soon after the latter date as convenient, to the Chairman of the Committee on Suicide;—it being understood that in States having more than one member, they be requested to divide their State by certain territorial limits.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the officers of the different institutions for the Insane in this country, to have engraved previous to the next meeting of the Association, a view and ground plan of their respective establishments, and of a size that will permit their being bound with their Annual Reports.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to publish in a collected form, the transactions of the Association, or under certain circumstances such parts of the same as they may deem expedient.

Resolved, That the Essays presented to this Association, are understood to be the opinions of the Chairmen of the different committees by whom they have been reported, and do not necessarily express the sentiments of other members relative to their details.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to publish an abstract of the proceedings of the Association, in the American Journal of Insanity, the American Journal of the Medical Sciences, and the New York Journal of Medicine.

The Association continued its sessions till the evening of the 14th of May, and then adjourned to meet in the city of New York, on the second Monday of May, 1848, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

By order of the Association,

THOMAS S. KIRKBRIDE, Sec'y.

A WILL CONTESTED ON THE PLEA OF THE INSANITY OF THE
TESTATOR.

The following abstract possesses some interest, as showing the law and practice on this subject in France.

M. Vicquelin, an ancient counsellor of the Royal Court of Rouen, executed a will in his own hand writing, by which he bequeathed all the property which the law allowed him to dispose of, to collateral relatives, but reserved the income of the same to his daughter, Dame Levacher. She applied for a declaration of the nullity of the will, on the ground that before, during and after its execution, the testator was of unsound mind and she offered to prove the same, by his writings and also by the testimony of competent witnesses.

The case was dismissed by the inferior tribunal and she now appealed to the Royal Court of Rouen. The Attorney General opposed it on the following grounds.

The mental capacity of M. Vicquelin was never judicially disputed during his life time. The presumption is therefore in favor of the will. This may however be invalidated by sufficient testimony. But there should be proof of habitual insanity and if this be established, it will not be necessary to show its presence precisely at the time of making the will. Present evidence of its existence before and after, and the defenders of the testamentary provisions must prove a lucid interval. But until the existence of insanity be thus shown, the will must stand, particularly as there is nothing extravagant in its dispositions.

In monomania, the lucid interval is its disappearance. The sane acts of a monomaniac do not constitute a lucid interval, as it is the essence of the disease, to be reasonable on many points, disconnected with the prevailing delusion.

If the insanity proceeds from a weakness of mind, produced by age or disease, there also will be lucid intervals. Under such circumstances, one and the other alternate, and the presence of reason constitutes in this instance, the lucid interval. If it be altogether absent, the individual verges to idiocy.

When we proceed to apply these abstractions to the case before us, we find that there is no charge of monomania. The insanity specified by the appellant is mental imbecility—the conjoint effect of age and disease. And here, all reasonable acts proved to have been performed by M. Vicquelin, of his own free will, and at his own instance, without persuasion or solicitation, are proofs of the occurrence of a lucid interval.

Nor must we confound the occurrence of anger or rage, however frequent, with mania. Allowance must also be made for oddities of character and peculiarities of mind. We consider Sepoitevin, as insane, because he went to the Tuilleries, dressed in a helmet and with the cordon of the Legion of Honor, and mistook Madame Adelaide for the King, and addressed her in incoherent language. So also with the person, who, fifteen years after the death of his wife, entered a complaint of adultery against her before a justice of the peace. Such conduct does not admit of more than one construction, but the accidental occasional loss of memory is very different, otherwise we must include La Fontaine in the number of the insane, because he hissed a performance at the theatre, of which he forgot that he himself was the author.

The avocat general then proceeded to consider the will itself and its provisions, showing that it was the result of his own free wishes, uninfluenced by any suggestion or urging, while at the period of making it, it was proved that he was constantly consulted by his neighbors on business matters. The letters written by him, or dictated and indeed his whole correspondence, proved that his intellect was unaffected. It was only when suffering under severe at-

tacks of pain, that he was guilty of violent or unreasonable actions.

The Court decided in favor of the Will. They state that the testator had labored from March, 1840, to the period of his death (Jan. 31, 1842,) under an almost incessant nervous irritation, caused by accidents that had impaired his health, and while under its influence, frequently yielded to fits of anger and violence and indeed committed many acts, which might be styled extravagant. But although these might throw a shade on his sanity, yet when it is remembered that during the same period and even in the last month of his life, many persons and even public officers consulted him on their affairs, that he had written many opinions with his own hands; that he had managed his property, with minute attention and that although there were proofs of puerility in the last days of his life, still his letters, notes and memoranda, by their number, precision, and good sense, indicate that his mind had resisted the attacks of age and disease so far at least as concerned his own property.

These considerations acquire additional force by the proof that these numerous writings were executed by the testator, at the time of making the will, as well as immediately before and after.

But the will itself is the best proof of his sanity, in its form, style, quotations from the law, and minute enumerations. All these were the sole and unaided work of M. Vicquelin, and expressed with such force and clearness, that even if we grant the occasional presence of imbecility, the paper itself must be conceded to have been the product of a lucid interval.—*Gazette Des Tribunaux*, October 9, 1845.

T. R. B.

COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY, FOR ENGLAND.

Lord Ashley, Lord Seymour, Hon. Robert Vernon Smith, Robert Gordon Esq. of Lewiston, County of Dorset, Francis Barlow Esq. of Montagu Square, Thomas Turner Esq. of Curson Street, Henry Herbert Southey of Harley Street, John Robert Hume Esq. of Curson Street, Bryan Waller Proctor Esq. of Gray's Inn, James William Mylne Esq. of Lincoln's Inn, and John Hancock Hall of the middle Temple.

The five first are honorary and receive no pay, the other six are the acting commissioners and are liberally paid, each one receiving the yearly salary of 1500 pounds, over and above their travelling expenses while visiting Asylums and Work Houses and places where the insane are confined.

Messrs. Turner, Southey and Hume, are Physicians, and Messrs Proctor, Mylne and Hall, are practicing Barristers of law of ten years standing.

They hold their offices during good behavior, but are not allowed to accept or hold or carry on any other office or situation or any profession or employment from which any gain is to be derived.

Robert Wilfred Skeffington Lutwidge Esq. of Lincoln's Inn is the Secretary to the Commissioners, and receives 800 pounds yearly salary.

The duties of these Commissioners are arduous. They grant licenses for Houses for the reception of Lunatics, and two or more have to visit every Asylum for Lunatics and every Gaol where Lunatics are confined, at least once a year and to see if the provisions of the laws relating to the keeping of Lunatics are complied with.

DR. BUTTOLPH, Assistant Physician of the New York State Lunatic Asylum, is about to visit the Institutions for the Insane in Europe. We hope to present our readers with a letter from him in our next number.